



## The First International Congress on Architectural Education

BY MAURICE E. WEBB [F.], D.S.O., CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS

There are nine and sixty ways of constructing tribal lays,  
And every single one of them is right.

—RUDYARD KIPLING.

**W**HEN Mr. Kipling wrote these lines I think he must have seen a vision of this Congress, and the assembly of such diverse intellects within our walls as MM. Girault and Defrasse of France, Professors Emerson and Bosworth of America, Professor Ostberg of Sweden, Dr. Slothouwer of Holland, Professor Achiardi of Italy, Professor Stabell of Norway, Professors Atkinson, Reilly, Richardson, Lethaby, Pite and McConnell of the British Empire, who, amongst many others, assisted (sometimes quite vehemently) in elucidating the problems which face the educationist.

That the Congress was a success is undisputed, and well it might be, considering that the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught gave their patronage to it on behalf of England, and that it was supported by Schools of Architecture throughout the world. Eighteen foreign nations and nearly all the British Dominions sent delegates to take part, and also sent examples of their students' work to the three exhibitions which were held in our own Galleries, Devonshire House and Grosvenor House. We trust that some measure of compensation for the hard work which our friends from abroad gave to the serious task of the Congress

was provided by the hospitality which was extended to them during their all-too-brief visit to this country. The visits to Cambridge, Greenwich, Wembley and the City churches, though not directly connected with the subject matter of the Congress, were designed to give those who had not visited England before a little insight into our national life, and also to provide opportunities of meeting for informal discussion. These were possibly as valuable to individuals as the more formal meetings during which Papers were read and speeches made.

The recent session of the R.I.B.A. has been memorable for two events, at first sight unconnected, but not really so. First, the successful issue of the movement towards unity within the profession in England, and, second, the gathering of the nations at the R.I.B.A. for the discussion of the best way to educate their architects. Both have only been made possible by a new spirit of goodwill which the younger generation is determined to foster as the only possible antidote to war. That spirit has wiped out our own differences and has led directly to a seeking after knowledge of what other countries are doing in educating the generation which is now growing to manhood. It was, I think, felt instinctively that the old parochial squabbles amongst ourselves about styles and manners of architecture, about which our grandfathers fought with each other, often bitterly, are out of place in this

modern world. We want to get to the root of things. Not the style but the meaning of things. We want to learn how other nations teach architecture to their students. Is it to be a cosmopolitan teaching with nationality sunk in the general principles which govern the planning of buildings the world over? Is it to be an abandonment of the past and a search after new principles to fit new materials and new methods of life, or is it to be an attempt to fit new materials and new methods to the ancient national styles of building? Is design to follow construction or is construction to dictate design? Is an architect to be a bricklayer or stone mason first and a designer of buildings afterwards, or vice versa?

These were some of the problems which the subjects for discussion opened up. Many and diverse were the opinions expressed upon them, and before the book of the proceedings is available for reading at leisure it is impossible to say how far the Congress has contributed to the solution of any one of them.

Certain facts do, however, stand out in very clear perspective, and I feel that it is not too early to enumerate them now.

1. The school system of teaching architecture appears to have achieved a firm footing in every civilised country in the world, as evidenced by every speaker, and by the work of students from fifty different schools from all over the world exhibited in our exhibition.

2. Speaker after speaker acknowledged the debt the schools owe to France for the logical teaching of design which they have imparted to students of every nation at the Beaux Arts.

3. Without the impetus given by France to a regularised systematic and logical training in planning and design, the school system as we now know it would not exist. The Americans were the first people to seize upon it, and build upon it a system of their own. Now they are independent, and are building up a national architecture out of their opportunities with the aid of students trained no longer in France but in their own schools.

4. In England our own schools are beginning to justify their existence by the success of their students, but the competition with the old system of pupilage and the hold which this somewhat haphazard system of training still retains in every part of the country except London and Liverpool is acting as a heavy drag upon the schools.

5. In our Dominions the schools are making headway and are much in the position of our English

schools, with this important exception, that opportunities abound for the erection by their students in the future of great buildings untrammelled by convention. The schools there have the opportunity which America took some twenty or thirty years ago.

6. The European countries seem like ourselves to be going through a transition stage, and to be trying in some cases to found a new style on new conditions, and in others to follow at all costs an old tradition and force it to fit our modern needs, but all are endeavouring to give their students the best education they can, and to give every man a chance to learn what can be taught him of the art and science of Architecture.

7. There can, I think, be no doubt in the minds of all those who took the trouble to see and digest the wonderful exhibition of students' work at this Congress, or who listened to the enthusiastic discussions in our Meeting Room, that the school system of training has come to stay. There *can* be question, there *was* question, and there *will be* question as to the amount of practical office training, work on actual buildings, and so forth, which should follow, accompany, or precede a school course, but as to the desirability of a systematic and regular school training as part, at least, of a student's career we heard no dissentient voice. The bog of undiluted pupilage has, I believe, been laid for ever.

8. The result of this Congress will be, as far as English architects are concerned, to make everyone who is taking pupils think very seriously whether he is giving his pupils the very best chance they can have in life by denying them the schools in whole or in part.

*The important person is the student who has his life to live, and not the master who has already lived the best part of it.*

That is the main lesson of the Congress as I read it.

We ought all to be grateful to those who came great distances to emphasise the importance which a regularised system of training bears upon the future of the Art of Architecture and the Practice of Building in every land. It only remains to add that the French representatives have asked for a complete report of the Papers and discussions, which they intend to translate into French and issue to French architects, and we have asked for permission to retain for a year the great bulk of the students' drawings shown in the Exhibition for circulation amongst the English schools. (I should like this privilege to be extended to our Dominions if that is possible and they wish it.) These are two facts which encourage one to believe that already the work of this Congress is bearing good fruit.

# Architectural Education in the Present in England\*

BY W. CURTIS GREEN [F.], A.R.A.

I WILL not waste the few minutes allotted to me in apologies for having undertaken the task of speaking on the present state of architectural education in this country. It is obvious that no single man is competent to deal adequately with such a task. I was asked, and consented, to do so only because for the time being I am Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education. At the outset I must make it clear that, while I am here in that capacity, I do not claim to be the mouthpiece of that distinguished body. Education is many-sided, and I believe that the Board who is responsible for it in the British Isles and overseas, under the jealous and affectionate eye of the Council, is representative of its varied aspects. I speak as one of the younger men in the presence of many of much wider experience than myself. I speak, too, as a practising architect, with none of the authority of a professor. It is to the professors and teachers of architecture that I look for the elucidation of the subject in the discussion that will follow these papers introducing it.

We heard yesterday from Mr. Waterhouse and other speakers of architectural education of the past; the discussion was designed to pave the way for the investigation of the present, in order that we may to-morrow prepare for better things in the future. The distinguished representatives of sister nations will not misunderstand me when I say that the Congress was conceived for selfish reasons—namely, to tell them where we are, and take counsel with them as to how we can better serve the art that not only affects the welfare of the State, but also unites us to them.

The present is a time of extraordinary interest and of development in architectural education; forces are at work, which, as the younger men come into their own, will profoundly affect our thought and achievement. I do not wish to be misunderstood; I do not predict super-architects. It is impossible to conceive higher ideals than those that have been borne aloft by our forbears, or than those held by the leaders that we are proud to follow to-day. I do not anticipate greater achievement than theirs. What I foresee is that for which the professors and masters in the Schools are working, fostered and helped by the Board of Architectural Education—namely, the raising of the general standard and general understanding of architecture.

For 60 years there has been an examination for the Associateship of the Institute, and for 42 years that examination has been compulsory. For 20 years the Board, established by men whose names are honoured in this country, has been in charge of the system. We

are to-day in a transition stage; many students following the old road as articulated pupils, getting such school training as may be available outside their office hours. There is no control over the quality or numbers that enter the profession in this way. We have at present no means of guiding their work other than by the examination system. You have heard of the faults and virtues of this system; they are in the main those common to any other that has as its immediate object the passing of examinations. It is, I think, true that it is now unsafe for any young architect to neglect to obtain the A.R.I.B.A. His livelihood may depend upon his holding this recognised qualification.

These students and the examinations to which they submit themselves are one of the concerns of the Board; the examinations themselves are the subject of constant supervision and improvement; the impossibility of dealing adequately with architecture by examination is fully recognised. Any stereotyped system tends to mediocrity and encourages cramming; the use of books in wrong ways, and in the early impressionable years, creates a scale of wrong values in the mind of the student.

Such virtue as remains in the apprenticeship system lies with the master, aided by outside classes. Unfortunately, the rush of modern practice makes the personal supervision of the principal practically impossible, or very rare. An apprentice is left to pick up what he can from the assistants in the office. He may see a great many fine working drawings made, and learn the routine of an office. He may see very little of specifications and kindred matters. He sees the results of his master's talent and experience, but learns little or nothing of the principles or theory that have gone to the making of them. He becomes the follower and carries on the tradition of a man and his work rather than of architecture in the wider sense.

The old system is unfortunately still favoured for financial reasons by many architects who sacrifice the future architect to the immediately useful draughtsman.

The new factor in the situation is the School of Architecture either attached to a university, a school of art, or independent of either.

There are at the present time seven such schools having a full five years' course of study, the later years combining some office training; the completion of the course to the satisfaction of the school authorities and of the Institute, who are represented by two external examiners, together with the passing of an examination in Professional Practice, gives the student exemption from the Institute examinations, and he becomes an Associate of the Institute.

\* A Paper read at the Congress on 30 July

There are sixteen schools with exemption from the Institute intermediate examination. The number of students recently in the schools were: First year, 189; second year, 217; third year, 131; fourth year, 99; fifth year, 50—a total of 686. These schools are situated at the great centres of population and are gradually covering not only the British Isles, but the dominions overseas. They are new, and they are young. They show the qualities of their condition, but they have, I believe, come to stay. One of the earliest pioneers of the schools, Professor Reilly, who has devoted the best years of his life to the founding and building up of the school system in general and the Liverpool School in particular, is of the opinion that it is a little early to pull them up by the roots to see how they are growing, or to expect much fruit from them; I agree that the tree must be allowed time to establish its roots, but the fruit is not by any means negligible. It may be seen, for instance, in some students who have in recent years returned from the British School at Rome. The winners of this blue ribbon have without exception been products of the schools. It may be seen, too, in the results of recent competitions, notably in that for the Holt building at Liverpool. I speak for myself, and I believe for the Board, in expressing the profoundest belief in these schools and in their future. The Board has recently appointed some of its members to make periodic visits to the schools, to take counsel with the staffs and with those in authority as to how their needs and those of architecture may be best served, having regard to the locality and the students. The object is to help the schools in their special difficulties, not to standardise them. I think we cannot overestimate the value of the freedom that they have achieved by the exemptions granted to them from the examinations, a privilege that will be most jealously watched over by the Board.

The differences between the schools is a notable and valuable fact. We must have some standard of achievement, but it is not desirable that the system should be standardised. We want the teachers of the schools to visit other schools and learn what they can from them. Differences of thought, of ideals, of methods, are as marked in the schools as they are outside them; it is by what has been achieved and not by what has been said that posterity will ultimately value what is now being done.

There are architects who object to the schools: some because they do not understand what they are doing and object to a jargon which has unfortunately been adopted in some few schools when the use of the King's English would have aroused no feeling; others, and these must receive serious consideration, because they regard the schools as too bookish and too theoretic; a few because the old system of apprenticeship was a pleasant source of income and

comfort, and because they do not turn out immediately useful assistants. There was a time when young men left the schools with an exaggerated view of their attainments and value. They obtained a good salary and were found useless for the work for which they were paid. That, I believe, is becoming a thing of the past. A boy entering an office for the first time, unless he is engaged on the preparation of competitive drawings, realises that he is a new boy making a new beginning, his first duty being to get his master's ideas into material shape through the medium of the drawing board, a duty requiring accuracy and patience. On the other hand, the principal is finding that at the end of a year or six months such an assistant is more useful and has a greater grasp of the content and meaning of architecture than has the office-trained man.

An American writer has well said that education does not necessarily teach how to do a thing, but how to make us capable of doing it. In the education of an architect the question is: Are we awakening enough enthusiasm to carry the man through the drudgery to power and to freedom?

In the early impressionable years of a boy's training and development there is, in my mind, no question of where the balance of advantage lies. In the one case he enters an office where he can take no useful part, nor is he capable of understanding the activities or interests of his fellows.

In the other he enters a great school perhaps with 10, 20, 30 or 40 other freshmen. He is set to work with them in an ordered sequence of study, with a mind unconfused by factors and values relevant only to the practising architect's office. He has the healthy competition of students of the same year. The elements of draughtsmanship, design, construction, and history follow in an orderly procession, properly correlated and developed so that he may seize on their meaning and purpose. The strength of the schools lies chiefly in the method of teaching; in the personnel of the staff, who are mostly young and enthusiastic men, all of whom are actively engaged in private practice; and in the fellowship of the students of the same and of the senior years.

The school system at its best, as I have personally seen it at the A.A. at Liverpool, at Manchester, at Bristol, and I hope and believe at many other schools which I have not yet had an opportunity of seeing, is the teaching of architectural design and construction concurrently in stages from the first year to an honours course in the fifth year. It is interesting to note that at Liverpool, where there is an honours course for fifth-year students that can be taken in either design or construction, those who take it in construction produce the best designs.

The method of teaching design has as its origin the great French school. The method adopted is that



of M. Guadet, whose elements and theory of design and composition have been applied with so much success to the great school of modern architecture in the United States of America. It is noticeable that those schools who produce the best results are just those who encourage by lecture and by quick rough small scale sketches the study of design from the first year to the last. Every fortnight a programme is issued for some subject, large or small; the larger the subject the less the detail required; the first sketch is criticised. A number of such studies teach the student the right approach to a problem in design, to read the programme, to seize on the essential factors and to arrange them harmoniously. It is only in the last years that a student works out in detail a design for a building of any size.

Here are to be seen few if any finished designs having initial and fundamental mistakes such as are so often seen in competition work. The students are taught the grammar of the art that they are going to follow, so that they may hope to achieve that harmony of form running throughout each composition, both in plan, section and elevation, that alone entitles the result to the name of architecture. I must say a word about the designs submitted for the Prix de Rome by students during their fourth or fifth year in the School. These designs are the students' unaided efforts. They are not very good, and they are severely criticised. Could you or I have done so well during the fourth or fifth year we were in an office? The standard must be raised by encouraging men of more experience to enter for these valuable prizes.

You can trace at the exhibition a student working his way towards freedom of expression. The schools, quite rightly, I think, take up what may be described as a central position. They regard the classics as the gold standard. The student is taught to look to these, Classical or Gothic, as the forms of utmost perfection. They are shown to be the forms to which we all constantly return, and which, on returning, we always find more perfect than we thought. While he is being taught to delineate these forms he is being taught their application and the methods by which they were built. At the same time he is being lectured to upon the sources of art, and taught to realise the richness of his heritage and his responsibilities as a follower of that art to the life of his own day.

Some of the schools perhaps do not insist enough upon direct contact with the noble forms they hold up to the student, because the school is not in a favourable position to do so. Like the schools in America, they have to fall back to a great extent upon books. I believe the professors of architecture hold the view that the elements of architecture can best be studied from actual buildings, and that composition can best be studied from books; the observation of the one teaching the relation of those parts that the eye can embrace, and of the other the beauties of composition in plan, section and elevation focussed into plates.

Sir Reginald Blomfield in one of his lectures to R.A. students said: "The reading of books will not make architects, his proper study will always be buildings." I do not myself believe that there is any short cut in this matter; the study must be from buildings, and their beauty gradually unfolded to the student by his making his own measured plans, sections and elevations.

It is interesting to note the difference of thought in the different schools; each school is working out its own salvation. Students' work to-day—in spite of the bewilderment that is felt at their lack of enterprise in entering for the great studentships and prizes which were so hotly contested in our own days, a matter, by the way, that is now receiving consideration—is, in my opinion, and I have seen a great deal of it, in a far healthier and more lively state than it has ever before been. The present exhibition speaks for itself. You will see there good draughtsmanship, of different qualities for different purposes: that for the sketch design, that for working drawings, and the finest of all, without which only the rarest genius can produce fine building, fully rendered elevational drawings, sensitive to fine proportions and fine detail. You will see there sane and reasonable design with the glamour of fine tradition behind it. Here and there it will have that touch of freshness which, provided that it has come by way of study, is so delightful. You will see fully worked out constructional drawings for masonry, steel and reinforced concrete.

You will see measured drawings of great buildings, the enthusiastic work of brief vacations and the fine leisurely product of scholarships spent in foreign travel.

You will form your own opinion of what we are doing, and of what we are capable of doing with your assistance, and a corrected vision.

## The Congress Exhibition of Students' Drawings

BY H. CHALTON BRADSHAW [4.] (ROME SCHOLAR IN ARCHITECTURE, 1913).

THE exhibitions held last week at Grosvenor and Devonshire Houses in connection with the Congress on Architectural Education have given us for the first time a comprehensive survey of the work of the principal schools of architecture all over the world. The only notable schools not represented were those in Germany.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the Exhibition was the predominance in both American and British sections of the influence of the *Ecole des Beaux Arts*. This does not imply a slavish imitation. It means that up to the present the schools in Britain and America have found that the system of work and methods of study pursued at the French school for over fifty years are superior to any they have so far been able to devise. Naturally there are modifications imposed by differences of condition and outlook, but the basis is the same.

Of the other schools some appear to be mainly conservative—such as the Italian and the Spanish, others are much less concerned with tradition—such as the Dutch and Swedish, some again seem definitely modernist—such as Austria.

One of the great advantages of this exhibition is that it has given critics of the school system in this country a real opportunity of examining the school work in detail. They can now review, in the light of evidence from schools all over the world, their criticism that the school is an "imperfect instrument of education" and that the proper place is the workshop. They have seen how the architects of great building countries such as America are almost exclusively trained in schools, and how the oldest of all—the *Ecole des Beaux Arts*—is not only alive to changing conditions of construction, but is able to apply its teaching to the most elaborate and intricate of modern problems.

The schools themselves can also learn much from each other—in particular the smaller schools should have gained inspiration.

There is, however, one criticism that may be made of an exhibition of this sort. It *does*, though it should not, encourage the production of the "exhibition drawing," a spurious piece of work having often no relationship to the actual state of the student's progress, and sometimes actually misleading as to the value of the course he is following.

A smaller disadvantage is the exhibition of faulty designs which owe their mistakes to the necessity of adhering to an "esquisse" which is not shown. The

"esquisse" method of study is good in itself, but such an exhibition of finished drawings only without explanation is misleading to those who are without experience of school methods.

### DEVONSHIRE HOUSE.

The work of the schools in Britain and the Dominions was shown at Devonshire House. There was also on view a selection of the winning designs for R.I.B.A. prizes and studentships from 1838 onwards.

In examining the designs done in the schools one observed a tendency in some schools to cling to established and traditional motives in design, working them out in close reference to historical models, and in others a disposition to discard these which sometimes result in feeble inventions, but more often in refreshing designs justified by new problems and changed conditions.

Some schools are still inclined to be over-elaborate in their large drawings, even in the case of quite a simple building, accentuating their plans with "mosaic" and giving them monumental surroundings for no particular reason that can be seen. Such a treatment is unsound. These conventions have their uses, but there is a right way and a wrong way of employing them, as an intelligent study of the best French drawings shows.

The whole exhibition was in many ways an exhibition of draughtsmanship. There were some beautiful drawings. Some, on the other hand, were really bad and should never have been exhibited. The rush of the school course has too often produced sloppy drawings which will not stand anything like examination. Some had obviously been rescued late in their career by the hand of the master. There was the forced "exhibition drawing"—for example, one was startled to find, on closer examination, that what one had imagined to be the residence of an ambassador on the Riviera was in reality a "dairy farm." Nevertheless, we cannot deny that a fine design demands beautiful draughtsmanship, and the efforts made by the schools to raise the standard in this country are worthy of all praise.

Of the schools themselves the two outstanding were Liverpool and the Architectural Association. Liverpool, under the admirable guidance of Professor Reilly, has reason to be proud of its achievement. The drawings by Mr. Prestwich were well worth exhibition, showing as they do the high standard reached by Liverpool in 1911 before other schools

awoke to the possibilities that were open to them. There were some well worked out designs by Messrs. Welsh, Checkley and Dougill, and some clever pencil sketches by Mr. Fry. The six hour sketches, though arresting in style, were often inadequately thought out. There was an impressive set of drawings by Mr. Gabr which showed the advanced stage of construction that can be reached by students at the end of the fifth year. The work of the school as a whole shows a tendency to design in a particular style based not only on classical orders and classical planning, but on the mode evolved by the architects of the Italian Renaissance from which has descended English and now American architecture. Professor Reilly says, "A very personal mode is not a good thing for the average man." He claims that we have suffered too long from attempts at giving a false individuality to modern buildings by an ignorance of past "motifs."

The Architectural Association illustrated their five-year course by the complete work of one student, Mr. Enthoven. It was an imposing array of drawings. Striking, too, were the designs of Mr. Shephard for the Tite prize (one of the best in recent years) and Messrs. Hyslop and Jellicoe for the Rome Scholarship, and Mr. Pierce's winning design for that prize. Their exhibit was varied and contained more individualistic work than that of any of the other schools. Many will have found it the most attractive section of the exhibition.

Bristol School, in the next room, follows in the footsteps of the A.A., as a daughter should. Their exhibit was of course small, but included some classical compositions which were perhaps the best in the exhibition.

London University work was made attractive by a somewhat dashing style of drawing. The interest of foreground and background, however, sometimes outweighed the interest of the building itself. There is an obvious Beaux-Arts influence both in the planning and general finish of the drawings. Mr. Bardell's design for a school of architecture has a fine plan and is one of the best designs. In the second-year work there were two obvious imitations of the paintings of Mr. Walcot, which seemed to have nothing to do with a school course. The work of this school is improving.

Manchester University was marked by the quietness and restraint of its work, which came as a relief after the attempts to achieve the arresting which too often characterise an exhibition of this sort. The work of Miss Rogers is worthy of mention.

Cardiff Technical College seems to derive more inspiration from contemporary work than from a good library. There was some competent work shown by Mr. Oakley.

Newcastle, Leeds and Sheffield call for no special

comment. They do not seem to have adequate facilities for study.

The Birmingham School showed good drawings. The design subjects were well considered and the solutions were sound. This school has made a promising start.

There were nine drawings from the Cambridge School, which were so bad that one can only suppose that their authors have been advised to give up architecture.

The work of Edinburgh College of Art is disappointing, and what was labelled fourth-year work is no higher in standard than second-year work in the best schools.

The work of Glasgow and Aberdeen is conscientious but inclined to be dull. Here one felt that the drawings did not give an adequate idea of the value of the courses they represent.

Johannesburg when it follows its own local traditions produces the best results. There was a fourth-year design for a theatre which cannot be accepted as serious work.

The work sent by Sydney Technical College and University is satisfactory. There were some good drawings from the Central Technical College, Brisbane. The MacGill University exhibit was disappointing as the fruits of a five-year course. At Toronto University the presentation is often a feeble imitation of the Beaux-Arts style, and many of the plans were wrong in scale and poor in design. The work is, however, better than that of MacGill University.

The Royal Academy is not a school in the ordinary sense of the word, but rather a design club for more advanced students. It exhibited some good designs, but it is a fair criticism that some of them were entirely unrelated to present-day needs.

The exhibition of the work of all these schools enables us to examine the present system of education in detail.

In the vestibule were drawings executed by students for Institute prizes, some of which were done before the schools came into existence. While they show that a similar standard was aimed at, and indeed in some cases reached, they have the very defects which are often supposed to be peculiar to the school system, *i.e.*, pompous draughtsmanship, avoidance of constructional detail and form. In point of fact there were actually among the drawings produced in the schools some which exhibit an advanced standard in construction never reached, so far as one can see, by students of pre-school days. The teaching of construction is obviously an integral part of the school curricula and goes hand in hand with the teaching of design.

In conclusion it must be pointed out that there are schools enjoying power to exempt from the

Institute examinations which they seem unable to justify. This state of things calls for careful enquiry if the standard of architectural education is to be maintained.

One would like to see all Intermediate and Final students, in schools which enjoy exemption, obliged to do a common subject. An exhibition of these designs would enable a comparison of standards to be made and any anomalies checked.

#### GROSVENOR HOUSE.

It is a pity that this exhibition was only open for the week of the Congress and that it was consequently impossible to examine carefully the interesting work of the foreign schools at Grosvenor House.

Although France was by no means adequately represented, everyone must have been impressed by the design (which won the Chenevard prize) by M. Defrasse for "Une Ile Flottante sur l'Atlantique," shown in a fine imaginative set of drawings. As M. Jaussely reminded us in his inspiring Paper at the Congress, the problems which the architect would be more and more called upon to face were constructive problems of increasing audacity and complexity. Here is an attempt to apply the principles of French teaching to such a problem of the future, the construction of a station for hydroplanes with harbour, hangars and hotel, floating in the middle of the Atlantic. The rest of the French exhibit was hardly representative of the great traditions of the Beaux-Arts School.

The American exhibit was the most impressive of all at Grosvenor House for power of design and beauty of draughtsmanship. There is a marked equality in the standard attained by the various schools. It is difficult to pick out any schools for special praise, but mention must be made of the work of the University of Pennsylvania for its good classical designs and its delightful colour studies, of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, for its archaeological studies and life drawings, and of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburg, which

seems to owe more to the genius of Hornbostel and Cass Gilbert than to the influence of the Beaux Arts.

The Technical College, Delft, Holland, sent a collection of drawings of a very different style. Some were arranged in portfolios illustrating the five-year course, which gave a good idea of the thoroughness and soundness of the school.

The work sent by the Royal Academy of Stockholm, Sweden, was stimulating, although their exhibit consisted only of small photographs of drawings. There were no studies of classical architecture so far as one could see throughout the six-year course.

The Norwegian exhibit was interesting and carefully arranged, showing studies in construction and some excellent wooden buildings.

Spain, Italy and Hungary were the most conservative of the countries represented. In the Spanish exhibit there was an interesting restoration of a chapel. While their drawings were good in themselves, the Italians seem to have lost some of the essential qualities of their great tradition.

The drawings sent by the Austrian schools were small and sketchy. Some of the designs were bizarre, although those who know the work of Mr. Erich Mendelsohn will realise that such things are being built. Some were without real architectural interest, but some essentially modern and very simply treated. There were also first and second year drawings of classical details—which might have been done in an English school—they seem to have left little or no impression on the minds of the advanced students, for most of their work is without precedent of any sort. "A Home for a Lover of Art" reminds one of the cubist painting of a "Shipwreck" which became "A Portrait of a Lady" at its next exhibition.

All members of the Institute, and in particular those engaged in teaching, will be very grateful to Mr. Maurice Webb and Mr. H. M. Fletcher for organising such a comprehensive and inspiring exhibition and to the schools for their co-operation which ensured its success.



## The Congress Banquet

A BANQUET in connection with the Congress was held at the Hotel Victoria, Charing Cross, on Thursday, 31 July, the President of the Royal Institute (Mr. J. Alfred Gotch) in the chair.

Mr. Gotch, in proposing the toast of "The Progress of Architectural Education," said:

Architectural Education is now so firmly established, owing to its progress in recent years, that its continued progress in the future may be taken for granted, and we can drink this toast with a light heart.

Its success depends in large measure upon the teachers, and to them we owe a deep debt of gratitude, and not only to them, but to our own Board of Architectural Education. I am happy to believe that the instructors take a wide view of their responsibilities, for education is not merely the imparting or acquiring of knowledge, but also the process of sharpening the faculties and of developing innate powers, not to mention the ability to put knowledge to its best uses.

I have little doubt that architectural students, as a rule, will avoid the danger of becoming too learned; of arming themselves too thoroughly against the forces of ignorance and incompetence, thereby rendering themselves liable to share the fate of that unlucky knight who was smothered in his own armour. At the same time, in architecture as in letters, a little leaning is a dangerous thing; and if students have an eye to their own interests, they will quaff deeply the draughts held out to them at the schools, drawn, not perhaps from the Pierian spring, but from its counterpart that fertilises the fields of architecture.

I trust they will retain those draughts and not be like the horse of Baron Münchhausen. I do not know whether that nobleman's adventures are read in the present day or not, I never see them on bookstalls, so perhaps you will bear with me while I relate, quite shortly, one of the astonishing incidents recorded by him. He was pursuing his flying enemies into their city, and reached one of the gates close on their heels. Directly the fugitives were inside the warder let down the portcullis, but so swift was the baron that he just managed to enter as the portcullis fell and he felt the wind of it behind his back. His foes were so demoralised that they left him unmolested, and he made his way to the great square, where he watered his horse at the fountain. The horse seemed unusually thirsty and drank on and on, and the baron became aware of a noise of falling water. On looking round he discovered to his surprise that the latter half of his horse was missing; it had been cut off by the portcullis, and consequently as fast as he drank great draughts from the fountain they poured out on the pavement behind. The horse was ultimately mended, but that is another story.

Any misfortune comparable to this I hope all architectural students will be spared, no matter in what country they may be working.

That students in other countries, as well as our own, are working, and working to some purpose, is manifest from the splendid exhibition of their work which is a notable feature of this Conference; and that they have the support of their distinguished countrymen is evident from the welcome presence of so many eminent architects from overseas—a delightful circumstance, and one which prompts the wish that nations could be as closely united in politics as they are in art.

It is my great pleasure to couple the names of three of these gentlemen with this toast: M. Girault, of France, whose singular genius has already been recognised by the Institute in the award of the Gold Medal—I wish I could adequately express to him in his own language the esteem in which he is held, but were I to try to do so, I doubt whether you or he would understand the niceties of my tribute; Mr. Cass Gilbert, from America, one of the most distinguished architects of that great country, which is giving us a lead in modern architecture, and in no more brilliant an example than the great Woolworth Building, of which he was the designer; and thirdly, M. Ostberg, of Sweden, whose splendid design for the new Town Hall at Stockholm, recently exhibited at the Institute both by drawings and model, filled us with deep and genuine admiration.

M. Charles Girault (Royal Gold Medallist), speaking in French, in responding said he would like to express the very great pleasure the delegates from France felt at being able to seize the opportunity of attending the Congress. The enlightened views on education which had been put forward in the many admirable Papers by eminent architects and professors of architecture had been of very real interest to all those concerned with architectural education and the betterment of architecture in the future. He was sure they had all reaped valuable ideas from the Congress, and he anticipated that the views put forward would have a considerable effect in improving the methods of architectural education. The education of the architect was a matter of very great importance to the life of a country. Different climate, different customs, different social states all affected architecture, but so long as the great and abiding principles of the art could be made to serve as a basis for the study of the architecture of the country in which the architect lived and practised, the different styles of architecture did not affect their merit or quality. It had been asserted in some quarters that too much attention was being devoted to archæology and ancient architecture, but in his opinion

the beautiful architecture of mediæval and ancient times should be studied by all students of architecture. In considering the materials to be used in a building they should take into account the climate of the place in which it was to be built, the ways of the people and their temperament; all these and many other points should receive attention in the endeavour to solve logically the problems which had throughout the ages confronted mankind. Copying the methods of one country in another to which they were unsuited, without knowing the traditions and customs of the country in which the methods of building originated, was not only illogical but would never produce a building which would be the admiration of future generations. It was necessary that students of architecture should be familiar with the best examples of past ages, but that did not mean that those masterpieces should be servilely copied; students should apply themselves to the gaining of a knowledge of how problems of planning and elevation were solved by the great masters of the art of architecture who had gone before. Past generations had left imperishable monuments to witness to their ability, and these buildings were also records of the history and customs of their time which deserved the closest study, for all architecture reflected the age in which it was evolved. Architects of the present should not allow themselves to be too much swayed by the popular demand, but should insist on the laws of proportion and hygiene being followed so that buildings would be pleasant and healthy habitations. The great shortage of small dwelling houses practically all over the world, and the demand of the workers for better accommodation, made it necessary that the study of architecture should more than ever concentrate on the designing and planning of small houses. The French delegates had been very much impressed by the enormous progress in this direction which had been made by English architects, and had inspected some of the housing schemes in this country with unmixed admiration; it was therefore perhaps unnecessary to emphasise this point to their English colleagues, who had given a lead to the world in the design of working-class houses, but he commended the subject for the special study of architects in countries where so much attention had not been given to the housing question as it had in this country.

Mr. Cass Gilbert, Honorary Corresponding Member, who also responded, said architecture was the recordance of civilisation—it was, in fact, the recordance of life itself. It was always of its own time. It might sometimes try to imitate, but it could not do so successfully because of the fact that the conditions were always different in every age. Architecture reflected the conditions and civilisation of the age in which it existed. Whatever the teachers of the present or their successors taught, the architects

of the future would, consciously or unconsciously, record indelibly the civilisation of the age in which they lived. It was said of Solomon that he was the wisest of men, not the most learned. Therefore teach wisdom, teach understanding of the spirit of things, teach understanding of the spirit of the age. It was the spirit they should teach. Let imagination run over if they would, but a trained mind would cover an active imagination and make it more useful for the present and more valuable for the future. It was up to architects of the present to keep burning the torch of the past and pass it on to the eager age of to-morrow. He and the other delegates all felt grateful for the opportunity of attending the Congress, they had all enjoyed the hospitality of the Royal Institute, and they would carry the memory of the Congress as another great occasion in the history of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Mr. Ragner Ostberg (Sweden), also responding, said the south-east corner of Europe 2,000 years ago was the dwelling place of those who produced the architectural masterpieces of the past; the north-west corner of Europe was then, and was still, the home of the Swedes, and they had endeavoured to assimilate the wonderful culture of the ancient peoples of the south-east. The best of the ancient architecture had now become part and parcel of the architecture of Sweden, where, without copying, they tried to design their buildings with the same feeling for proportion and the same taste as the Greeks. It was to be noted that at the time of the noblest productions of Greek architecture, at the time of the best culture as expressed in buildings and of the foremost exponents of that culture, there did not exist such opportunities for attending architectural schools and receiving architectural training as was to-day considered necessary in the education of an architect. That absence of systematic training must be held to confer an added distinction on those architects of former days and their wonderful works. The Congress had been of very great value to architects all the world over, and it was to be hoped that the mingling together of artists of different countries which it had afforded would be a factor in uniting the peoples in a broader manner.

The toast of "Our Guests, Foreign Countries, and the Dominions of the British Empire" was proposed by Mr. Paul Waterhouse, who said the powers that be had laid upon him what was obviously the most important task of the evening, as would be realised when he said that the Congress represented no less than seventeen Dominions and countries. In referring to architectural education and the arts in France, he said that the French were fortunate in having what we had not got in this country, namely, a Minister—the Minister of Beaux Arts—who did not go out of office

with any party. In the course of one of his typically interesting and witty after-dinner speeches, Mr. Waterhouse read some couplets in which were introduced the names of many of those present, and which had been written, he said, by "someone in his office who left when he came on to the dinner." After addressing the foreign delegates in the French language, he said it was in no artificial parlance of the dining-room but with a very full heart that he asked his English friends present to drink the toast.

In responding, Professor H. K. Stabell (Norway) said, on behalf of the representatives of the nations invited to the Congress, he expressed their most hearty thanks for the hospitality they had received. He would also like to say how valuable the Congress had been in providing an opportunity for hearing the views on architectural education of eminent architects and teachers from so many different countries. The Congress had been very successful, both from the point of view of the lectures, which had been full of interest, and on account of the opportunities it had presented of representatives from different countries discussing amongst themselves the cause they had at heart—the cause of architectural education and the advancement of the art. Those who were fortunate enough to be present at the Congress would go back to their respective countries full of new ideas which he felt sure would leave their mark on modern architecture and on the architecture of the future.

Sir John Sulman said as an Anglo-Australian he felt he need hardly assure them of the loyalty of the Dominions to the Empire—that was amply proved in the late war—but he could and did assure them that whether they were individually members of the Royal Institute or of their local Institutes they were thoroughly loyal to the parent body and endeavoured to follow in its footsteps. There might be some slight differences of opinion or method, and architects in the Dominions occasionally made a forward step on their own account, as, for instance, the obtaining of registration a year or two ago by the Institute of Architects of New South Wales. He felt sure the Royal Institute might rejoice in the activities of the architectural societies overseas. The Congress had been a most remarkable one. He had been away from the Old Country for nearly forty years, with the exception of a brief visit, and he saw great changes. He thanked them on behalf of his comrades in the Dominions for that great and influential gathering the Royal Institute had been able to get together of architects of all nations for the discussion of a most important matter which affected the well-being of the whole profession of architecture. It had been most enlightening and valuable, and he would take away with him many ideas which he hoped he would have the opportunity of spreading in Australia, where they were very keen to

know what was being done in this country. In the matter of architectural education, they in Australia had not developed to the same extent as in this country. They had one or two schools, which were growing, and he hoped when he got back and told them what he had heard at the Congress it would have its effect in improving their methods and awakening a new enthusiasm. One thing that had struck him in the discussions was that although there were differences in opinion on matters of detail there was a keen desire on all sides for the well-being of the profession as a whole, for its greater influence in the world, and especially for the interests of the rising generation who would take their places in the world. The architectural schools had a noble aim in view, and he felt sure the generation which succeeded the present would be the better for it—there would be a gradual progressive movement for the benefit of the profession all over the world. He would like to be greatly daring. At the meeting on the question of amalgamation held at Caxton Hall a few weeks ago the object was the unity of all the architects in Great Britain, but would it not be possible to go a step farther? Would it not be possible for the whole of the architects in the British Empire to be united? Hitherto the great difficulty which had kept them apart had been distance and the time occupied in travelling or sending despatches from one part of the Empire to another, but great developments were taking place. The aeroplane and wireless telephone were already making isolation a thing of the past, and were making both travelling and communication speedier. When the time came, and it would probably not be very far in the future, when travel by aeroplane and communication by wireless telephony were universal, who could tell but what the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects might not be a distinguished architect in Canada or South Africa? Mr. Gotch was the first President of the Royal Institute who did not reside in London, and he congratulated him on the self-sacrifice he had shown in accepting the position and the wisdom of the Council of the Institute in seeking outside London for a President. He accepted the present provincial President as a good augury for the future president from the Dominions.

Professor Wellesley McConnell (Toronto), who also responded, said he represented the first and oldest architectural school in the Empire: his school was nearly forty years old, which of course was not to be compared with the old-established schools of their friends in France, yet they felt in Canada that they had been engaged in University architectural education for a very considerable time. They had all enjoyed and profited by the Congress, and would take back with them to various parts of the world many ideas that would influence the methods of architectural education, and he hoped they would not be leaving without having each left an idea

or two which would be of help to the others present at the meetings.

Professor A. Annoni (Milan) (speaking in Italian), in an eloquent speech, said he wanted to express the wish that architecture would succeed in the task of uniting peoples and that they would be able to meet often for an exchange of views on the ideals which had led to their meeting here.

The President extended an invitation to representatives of other countries to speak.

Mr. Manuel Monasterio (Mexico) said the foundations of the school he represented were Spanish, and in later years they had learned much from the Americans. He believed improvements in the architectural education of the future were assured.

Professor Lallerstedt (Sweden) speaking as representative of the Ecole Polytechnique of Stockholm and in the name of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of that city, said sound architecture rested upon the foundation of a good and sound education, and he was firmly convinced that the Congress which had just terminated its task would prove a valuable contribution to such foundation.

Mr. P. M. Otano (Spain) expressed his thanks to his confrères in the Royal Institute for their cordial hospitality.

Mr. William Boring (U.S.A.) said that, as official representative of the American Institute of Architects, in the absence of Mr. Wade, he presented to the company the greetings of the American Institute of Architects, which was founded upon the Institute's ideals.

Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. (in proposing the health of the President) said: Sir John Sulman has congratulated Mr. Gotch on being the first President of the R.I.B.A. to come from the provinces and not from London. I would carry these congratulations further. As we all know, for about forty years the R.I.B.A. has been split from top to bottom on the question of Registration. Just ten years ago, when I had the honour to occupy the place now held so well by Mr. Gotch, we came to a settlement carried by a large majority, but the war came within six weeks of that settlement and everything had to begin again. Now what seemed likely to be an incurable malady has been healed. The whole body of architects is again united in the R.I.B.A., and we owe this happy issue very largely to the tact, the common sense, the patience and the single-minded honesty of purpose of our President, Mr. Gotch.

I give you, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, the health of Mr. Gotch, President of the R.I.B.A., one of the best of the long line of distinguished men who have filled that honourable and arduous position.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, seconding the health of the President, said that, as a provincial himself, he was delighted that a fellow-provincial had brought the Institute of Architects into such a flourishing condition.

The President briefly responded.

#### LIST OF THOSE PRESENT.

Mr. T. C. Agutter, Professor Commendatore Ambrogio Annoni, Mr. W. H. Ansell, M.C., Mr. James A. Arnott, Mr. John Begg, Mr. T. P. Bennett, Mr. Ivar Bentsen, Monsieur A. Bérard (Président, Société des Architectes Diplômés par le Gouvernement), Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Professor Commendatore Giuseppe Boni, Professor William A. Boring, Mr. A. C. Bosson, Mr. Carl Brummer, Mrs. Carl Brummer, Professor Lionel B. Budden, Mr. A. E. Bullock and Guest, Sir John Burnet, A.R.A., Lieut.-Col. H. P. Cart de Lafontaine, O.B.E., Mrs. F. E. Cart de Lafontaine, Mr. H. L. Child, Monsieur L. M. Cordonnier, Mr. Hector O. Corfiato, Major H. C. Corlette, O.B.E., The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, K.T., P.C., Mr. W. E. Vernon Crompton, Mr. Alex Cruickshank and Guest, Mr. Norman Culley, Mrs. Norman Culley, Professor Commendatore Pietro D'Achiardi, Monsieur R. Danis, Mr. Hugh Davies, Mr. W. R. Davies, C.B., Mr. Arthur J. Davis, Mrs. Davis, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, F.S.A., Vice-President R.I.B.A., Monsieur A. Defrasse, Monsieur Defrasse, Jun., Madame Defrasse, Mr. H. Dickinson, Mr. Rudolf Dircks, Professor Franz Drobny, Mr. George Drysdale, Professor W. Emerson, Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Haven Emerson, Mr. J. Fairlie, Mr. Raul E. Fitte, Mrs. Fitte, Miss M. T. Fitte, Mr. H. M. Fletcher (Hon. Secretary, Board of Architectural Education), Mrs. H. M. Fletcher, Professor E. A. Gardner (Vice-Chancellor of the University of London), Mr. Cass Gilbert, Mrs. Cass Gilbert, Monsieur Charles Girault (Président, Société Centrale des Architectes Français), Madame Girault, Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel (President of the Architectural Association), Mr. J. A. Gotch, F.S.A. (President of the Royal Institute of British Architects), Mr. W. Curtis Green, A.R.A. (Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education), Mrs. Curtis Green, Monsieur A. Guilbert, Mr. Gordon Hake, Mr. Stanley Hamp and Guest, Mr. E. C. Hannen, Mr. Everard J. Haynes (Secretary, Board of Architectural Education), Monsieur Jean Hébrard, Professor A. M. Hind, M.A., Mr. Gordon H. G. Holt, Monsieur Victor Horta, Madame Horta, Mr. G. J. Howling, Monsieur M. L. Jaussely, Mr. Herbert Jeans, Mr. Gilbert Jenkins, Mr. Vladimir Jezek, Mr. H. Martin Kaye, Mr. Arthur Keen (Hon. Secretary, R.I.B.A.), Mr. H. C. de Lafontaine, Professor Erik Lallerstedt, Mr. H. V. Lanchester, Mrs. Lanchester, The Viscount Leverhulme, Mr. Gustaf Linden, Monsieur Albert Louvet, Mr. Ian MacAlister (Secretary, R.I.B.A.), Mrs. MacAlister, Mr. Mervyn Macartney, F.S.A., Professor Wellesley McConnell, Professor Alex. McGibbon, Mr. James McNeill (High Commissioner for the Irish Free State), Mr. Everett V. Meeks, Sen. Antonio Rivas Mercado, Sen. Manuel O. Monasterio, Mr. E. C. P. Monson, Mr. W. G. Newton, M.C., Mr. Dermot O'Brien (President of the Royal Hibernian Academy), Mr. Basil Oliver, Mr. Frank Osler, Professor Ragnar Ostberg, Mr. P. M. Otano, Mrs. Otano, Miss M. M. Otano, Mr. E. J. Partridge (President of the Society of Architects), Dr. E. C. Pearce (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge), Mr. Sverre Pedersen, Professor A. Beresford Pite, Mr. W. L. Plack, Mr. W. T. Plume, Mr. W. S. Purchon, Professor C. H. Reilly, O.B.E., Mr. H. C. Robbins, Mr. Howard Robertson, Mr. R. Leslie Rollo, Mr. J. T. Saunders and Guest, Professor Antonio Sciortino, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A., Lady Gilbert Scott, Mr. Brian E. F. Sheehy, Sir John Simpson, K.B.E., Mr. John L. Skinner, Mr. J. Alan Slater, Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, C.V.O., Mr. M. J. H. Somaké and Guest, Mr. J. C. Squire, Professor Harald K. Stabell, Mr. Arthur Stratton, F.S.A., Mr. Leo S. Sullivan, Sir John Sulman, Mr. John Swarbrick, Sir A. Brumwell Thomas, Miss Thomas, Mr. Edward Thomsen, Monsieur E. Thoumy, Capt. B. S. Townroe, Mr. Jesper Tvæde, Dr. Raymond Unwin and Guest, Mr. A. J. Van der Steur, Mr. C. F. A. Voysey (Master of the Art Workers' Guild), Sir Charles Walston, Litt.D., Mr. Edmund Ware, Mr. Edward P. Warren, F.S.A., Mr. Septimus Warwick, Mr. Paul Waterhouse, F.S.A., Major W. E. Watson, Sir Lawrence Weaver, K.B.E., Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C. (Chairman, Congress Executive Committee), Mrs. Maurice Webb, Mr. Ernest Wilby, Mr. H. W. Wills, Professor J. Hubert Worthington, Mr. F. R. Yerbury.



## Liverpool Cathedral

### THE KING'S TRIBUTE TO THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE CATHEDRAL.

On the 19th July, in the presence of the King and Queen, the Bishop of Liverpool consecrated the new Cathedral Church of Liverpool. Previous to the ceremony at the Cathedral, the Mayor of Liverpool tendered the city's welcome to their Majesties at St. George's Hall.

His Majesty, in the course of his speech in reply, in which he referred to the fact that the date was the twentieth anniversary of the day when the late King Edward VII laid the foundation stone of the Cathedral, said :—

It is a fine tribute to the piety, the generosity, and the local patriotism of the city and diocese that, on the 20th anniversary of the day when my dear father laid the foundation stone of the Cathedral, this great and splendid achievement of modern architecture is ready for consecration and use.

The hope which you have expressed that the Cathedral Church of Christ in Liverpool may be worthy of the historic Cathedrals of England will assuredly be realised. Liverpool has risen to the full height of its rare opportunity, and has placed itself on a level with those great merchant towns of the Middle Ages which found the highest expression of their religious aspirations and of their civic pride in the building and adorning of their Cathedral Church.

Neither in its site nor in its architecture need Liverpool Cathedral fear comparison with the masterpieces of past generations. The position chosen dominates the port, and cannot fail to strike the imagination of approaching sailors and travellers with the belief that this great modern trading community—no less than its mediæval fore-runners—desires to “abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”

The Cathedral, moreover, is worthy of its high spiritual purpose. The whole design brings out the grandeur of the architect's conception and the skill with which he has solved the problem of adapting the buildings to the noble objects it has to serve. The necessity of ensuring that a very large congregation should be able to see and hear a preacher introduced into his task a complication which did not trouble the builders of the Middle Ages. Liverpool Cathedral marks a most important stage in the evolution of modern British architecture, since it is the first instance on so magnificent a scale in which the slavish copying of old models

has been eschewed and the Gothic tradition has been freely used and transformed by the modern spirit to minister to the religious needs of the present day.

This Cathedral recalls the great buildings of a past age ; it is planned on a colossal scale, and can be completed only by efforts continued throughout a long series of years. This is the true spirit of the mediæval builders, who felt that they could safely trust the execution of their cherished schemes to the faithful labours of succeeding generations, because what they designed to symbolise, the undying life of the Church, might well be too vast to be accomplished by one generation of men. It is a splendid testimony to the vitality of the Church in Liverpool that they have embarked fearlessly on so noble an enterprise, confident that, although they could not see to the end, the work would not be allowed to languish, but would in due time be carried to completion—“They dreamed not of a perishable home who thus could build.” Their confidence was grounded also on a knowledge of the spirit of their fellow-citizens. It has long been a characteristic of Liverpool that her people have never allowed success in commerce to blind their eyes to those values which are not to be measured in material balances, and that they have given liberally of their wealth to religion, social service, literature, art, and science.

I understand that, when the project of building a Cathedral in Liverpool was first launched, some fear was felt lest it should divert the money and energy so essential for the more ordinary needs of the Church. Actual facts have proved these misgivings to be without foundation ; and the magnitude of the conception has quickened the whole life of the Church and stimulated the activities of the diocese in all directions. I am convinced that the Cathedral, as a centre and expression of the religious aspirations of Liverpool, will be felt as an inspiration and a force for good in every sphere of social and industrial life, and in the entire channel of municipal enterprise.

#### COURT CIRCULAR.

Knowsley, Prescott, July 19.

The King this evening received Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, architect of Liverpool Cathedral, and conferred upon him the honour of knighthood.

## Inigo Jones : Some Surviving Misconceptions

A COMMENTARY ON "INIGO JONES" BY STANLEY C. RAMSEY, THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE "MASTERS OF ARCHITECTURE" SERIES.

BY THE PRESIDENT, MR. J. ALFRED GOTCH, HON. M.A. OXON, F.S.A.

However brilliant a monograph may be, it loses much of its value if its deductions, comments and criticisms are founded on erroneous assumptions. Inigo Jones is a particularly interesting subject for a monograph, not only because of his commanding position among British architects, but because so little is really known of him, his reputation being largely dependent on tradition, and tradition which has been accepted without close enquiry as to its accuracy. Perhaps forgiveness may be extended to a short statement showing that the Inigo Jones traditions cannot be accepted without serious modifications.

It has been well said that a writer upon any subject should take no statement of anyone else's for granted, at any rate on points of vital importance, but should verify the facts for himself. Of no subject is this more true than of Inigo Jones. Much of what has been written about him has been repeated by one writer after another without enquiry; but anyone who deals with his life and work should verify dates for himself, and read as many of his letters and official reports as possible, but above all should examine with the utmost care the original drawings attributed to him, his annotated copy of Palladio, and his sketch-book which he used during his second visit to Italy. To those who are only acquainted with the traditional accounts and pin their faith to them, such an examination will be a revelation.

There are three points in the view ordinarily accepted of Jones's work, and accepted without demur by Mr. Ramsey, which are of particular interest, namely, his connection with the design for the great Palace at Whitehall, with the design for King Charles's Block at Greenwich, and with Coleshill.

The Banqueting House at Whitehall is assumed to have been part of a vast palace designed by Jones, and the only part ever built. But an acquaintance with the circumstances under which the Banqueting House was actually built, and a study of the drawings of the palace itself, which are preserved at Worcester College, Oxford, at Chatsworth, and in the library of the Royal Institute, completely dispose of this assumption. The truth is that the Banqueting House was not designed as part of a large palace, but the palace was designed to include that structure after it had been already built.

In the year 1607 a new Banqueting House, replacing an older one, had been built as part of the then existing palace by James I. Smithson has a plan of it among his drawings now at the Institute. In January, 1619, this hall was burnt down, and the Banqueting House which we know was forthwith built on its site from

designs by Inigo Jones; his own drawings for it are preserved at Chatsworth. The "model," or design as it would now be called, was completed by April, when Jones and others submitted an estimate of the cost, and the work was started in June, 1619. The new hall was not part of a large scheme: the only reason for building it was that the old one had been burnt down. The period which elapsed between the destruction of the old and the start of the new building was far too short for the completion of so large a design as that of the palace illustrated by Kent. But in fact this design was only one out of seven which were actually elaborated. In this elaboration, so far as the evidence goes, Jones had no part whatever. It was John Webb who worked out the whole series. Not only does Webb expressly say that Charles I, when at Hampton Court and the Isle of Wight (after he was in the hands of the Parliament), ordered him to prepare designs for the great palace at Whitehall, which Webb proceeded to do up to the time of the King's "unfortunate calamity"—not only is there this express statement, but the drawings themselves are by Webb, and the working out of his designs can be followed from his first sketches onwards. He has also worked out in great detail many particular features of the large plan. Further, although it was Charles I who gave the order, it was Charles II who eventually accepted one of the designs, which, however, was never carried out, and the whole idea came to nothing.

Such is a very short summary of a long story which has many ramifications well worth further examination.

As to King Charles's Block at Greenwich, Webb must again be credited with the design. There are no drawings by Jones of this building, but there are many by Webb, including the elevations, which are obviously adapted from Palladio's elevation of the Villa Valmarana; so Mr. Ramsey is quite right in saying the inspiration was derived from that source. Webb's drawings are dated 1663, 1665, 1666, and 1669-70; by a warrant of Charles II, dated 21 Nov. 1666, Webb was appointed assistant surveyor to Sir John Deham "for the erecting and building of our palace at Greenwich." So far as can be gathered, the idea of rebuilding this palace originated with Charles II some ten or twelve years after the death of Jones in 1652. But its early history still remains to be written by a careful historian, who will, of course, not overlook Webb's plan of a complete layout. So far as the evidence now goes, it was Webb who fixed the relationship of King Charles's Block to the Queen's House, one of the dominating factors of the whole scheme.

As to Coleshill, the evidence relating to its inception and building is furnished by the notebooks of Sir Roger Pratt and the diary of Sir Mark Pleydell, who states that Pratt was the architect of the house in friendship to his cousin, Sir George Pratt, who built it in consequence of its predecessor having been burnt down in 1647. Inigo Jones was consulted during the operations, and Webb may have had some connection with them, but the actual architect appears to have been Pratt.

Webb, by the way, was not son-in-law to Jones, as is so frequently stated, but a connection by marriage, his wife being a kinswoman of Jones's.

There remain to be mentioned the copy of Palladio with Jones's annotations, and the sketch-book. It is a mistake to think of the former as his "architectural bible," for he by no means regarded it as sacred, but was quite free with comments and criticisms. It was a sort of commonplace-book in which he jotted down all kinds of observations. Among the marginal notes are a good many dates, which have to be regarded with caution inasmuch as those written in Italy are of the New Style, whereas those written after he started for home and after his return are of the Old Style. The earliest is September 1613, which seems to fix that year as the beginning of his visit, not 1612; other

dates show that he returned to London in January 1615. His sketch-book is dated Rome 1614, and that is really the year he spent in Italy. There is no doubt, from the evidence of these books, that he studied the antiquities and topography of Rome; and there is equally no doubt that he did very little architectural sketching but a great deal of sketching from the human figure.

Apologies are due to Mr. Ramsey and your readers for this endeavour to correct the usually accepted notions about Jones and his work. If anyone desires to pursue the subject, he can consult a number of articles which have appeared in print—for Greenwich, the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL, 3rd Series, Vol. XVIII, No. 10 (1911); for the Whitehall drawings, *The Architectural Review*, June 1912. Both these papers are fully illustrated with reproductions of the original drawings from which readers can form their own conclusions. Coleshill is dealt with in the appendices to *The English Home from Charles I to George IV*, Batsford, 1919. In the same book the Whitehall drawings are discussed. The architect of Coleshill is also discussed in *Country Life* in July and August 1919, pp. 108 and 138. The sketch-book is described in *The Architectural Review*, March 1917.

## Review

### SMALL HOUSES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

By C. H. James and F. R. Yerbury. 4°. London, 1924. £1 11s. 6d. [Crosby, Lockwood & Sons.]

The problem of Housing is now finally realised as a national question of the greatest social importance, and to its solution every Government and Municipality is called upon to contribute. No longer is it an affair for a few social idealists, but is everybody's concern. This is becoming generally recognised, and with the much canvassed reviving public interest in architecture generally, there is a growing interest in this question which provides the strongest ground for an optimistic belief in future development. Without a general public understanding of the elements of this matter and a public backing the executive cannot proceed far. May it also become recognised that the architectural aspect of the question is a large part, and that the trained architect, as distinct from the trained surveyor, has a vital contribution to make.

It is, therefore, an opportune time for this book to appear, supplying as it does a record and measure of attainment. Unfortunately the work set out here cannot be said to represent the average housing scheme. The examples given are chosen from among the best, and chosen deliberately to assist in forming a standard for future guidance. Whatever criticisms from an architectural standpoint may be made of the accomplished work, it is clear from a study of Messrs. James

and Yerbury's book that a very great advance has been made upon the earlier work. Much of the fussy picturesque individualism of the early garden suburbs has gone, for we can no longer afford broken roof surfaces and projections and irritations of one kind and another. The unit has become larger and design broader. Streets are being designed instead of individual houses, and a communal idea is finding expression. It may be hoped that the unit of design may be still further enlarged and that there will be terraces from which the destructive individual front gardens have disappeared. Perhaps Richelieu, Nancy, Bath will be studied rather than the pretty accidents of the English village. Of all the work here illustrated that of Messrs. Adshead and Ramsey at Dormanstown and Kennington has perhaps achieved the most in that the communal idea is here best expressed.

Mr. James contributes chapters on the economics, the selection and planning of the site, and the design and construction of the individual houses. While disclaiming any intention to go deeply into these aspects he supplies a very useful outline. The book contains working drawings, specification and quantities for a group of houses at Welwyn by Messrs. Hennell and James, and sixteen schemes illustrated by photographs and working drawings and the addition of three examples from Holland, Sweden and Denmark. The book is produced in a very pleasing manner.

C. COWLES-VOYSEY [A.].

## The British Architects' Conference at Oxford

9-12 JULY 1924.

ON 10 July the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University (Mr. J. Wells, Warden of Wadham), prior to the lecture by Mr. Edward Warren, on "An Historical Sketch of Oxford," welcomed the members of the Conference on behalf of Oxford University at the Sheldonian Theatre.

He had the honour of receiving them in the name of the University. As they knew, the University of Oxford did not do anything officially for the study of architecture; he meant "officially" in the sense of having examinations; in that respect they were, he might say, inferior, though the question might be argued—and he would like very much to ask their opinions upon it—to the sister University of Cambridge, where they allowed their graduates to take a certificate in architecture; there was a good deal to be said for that, and perhaps Oxford might come to it later. They had at the present moment a Committee of Fine Arts in Oxford; but all the University had done for architecture was to have the great advantage of employing the services of architects, with the results which they saw around them. Oxford had been well served by their profession, and he especially had the right to say that because he had the honour of presiding over the College which gave Christopher Wren to the University in 1649; Wren resided at Wadham for two or three years before he went to All Souls, but his connection with Wadham was longer than that, for he came to them again as Professor of Astronomy. As they knew, he was one of the most many-sided of men and would have been the greatest English mathematician after Newton, if he had not chosen to be the greatest of English architects. Wren was residing at Wadham at the time he designed the building in which they were; this, as they knew, marked the complete triumph of the classical style in Oxford over the old Gothic traditions which had lasted so markedly in Oxford, and of which the College in which he (the speaker) had had the honour of receiving them, was so striking an example. It was rather pathetic that it should have been a son of Wadham who completely killed the old Gothic tradition at Oxford. Probably, however, the time had come when the old style had to pass away, and the new style of architecture in England had to be developed. Wren certainly started that in a most magnificent way.

As Oxford had benefited so much from architecture and architects, it was fitting and desirable they should have the honour of receiving Members of the Institute there. In England they had a way of producing results without system which sometimes, at any rate, were as good as those produced in other countries by the most elaborate systems. Two of the greatest names in present-day English architecture were those of Oxford men. Sir Thomas Jackson, an ex-scholar and now an honorary Fellow of Wadham, had very largely rebuilt Oxford, and represented, he thought, admirably the great traditions of English architecture, based at once upon knowledge of the past and on an understanding of the present day. He would like to mention one other name, one of his contemporaries, Sir Reginald Blomfield, who went out from Oxford to forward the cause

of English architecture elsewhere, and at the same time to give them the advantage of his skill there, in the building of Lady Margaret Hall.

The Vice-Chancellor's own view of the relations of the University to architecture certainly was that they ought in Oxford to do all they could to make themselves familiar with the great traditions of the past. He did not think any living art ought to be fettered by these, but at the same time he thought they would agree with him that in all the work done in the present, they should take note of the lessons of the past. He thought that in Oxford, not only by examples, of which they had plenty, but also by precept, they ought to do something to spread the knowledge of architecture amongst their own men. This had been done, at any rate since the Gothic revival began, more or less by the old Oxford Historical and Architectural Society, of which at one time he had the honour to be the librarian. In the old days that Society, he thought, did vigorous and good work, due to Edward Augustus Freeman, who was a scholar at Trinity and who came back to Oxford as Regius Professor of History; certainly, in his view, English history was always associated with the great buildings of the past. He (the speaker) learned from Freeman the love of architecture and what it meant in history, and he seemed to be the type of man whom they really wanted in Oxford, so that their young men might understand the great heritage they had in the past. The Vice-Chancellor then said that they were proud now to claim as a son of Oxford their President, Mr. Gotch, who, as they knew, had done yeoman service in reminding the present generation of the extraordinary beauty and the richness of the inheritance which had come down to them from the past, not only in the churches, but also in the domestic architecture of England, of which Mr. Gotch had written so charmingly and with such great success.

He felt that he might add that they were doing something officially in Oxford to promote the study of English architecture. During the last year they had had the advantage of a course of lectures from Mr. W. G. Newton; Mr. Newton's lectures had been largely attended, and he was sure something had been done to promote the knowledge of the history of architecture. He understood the Royal Institute had been good enough to offer to help in the continuance of those lectures during the coming year; the University had for the moment decided to drop them, but the Vice-Chancellor had good reason to hope they would be renewed in the course of the next year. There was only one other thing he desired to say. He wanted to draw their attention to a small part of Oxford, which, while it could not be said badly to need repair, at the same time might be restored to a more seemly state of things; it dated from the time and from the skill of Christopher Wren. When they went out from that building they had on the one hand the Congregation House of the University; on the right hand side of this to the north they had the museum, which it was suggested was designed by Wren, although the suggestion was doubted. At any rate it was an interesting building which he might say had returned to its old func-



tions once more. It was the oldest museum in Oxford, he was not sure it was not the oldest museum in England. They had transferred its contents to the Science Museum and the galleries in Beaumont Street, and the old University building was given up to dictionary making and geography; but now once more they were going to make it a museum, a unique museum, of scientific instruments, of which the nucleus would be the splendid collection of Mr. Louis Evans, the brother of Sir Arthur Evans, the great explorer; round this would be gathered the memorials of Oxford science in the past. He believed he was right in saying it would be the most complete museum of scientific history in the British Isles and perhaps in the world. Between this museum and the north wall of the Congregation House there was an ornamental wall, separating the property of the University from Exeter College. It was elaborately built, and it was designed almost certainly by Christopher Wren. It was designed in part as a boundary wall, but it was also to be the background of the Arundel marbles which were presented to the University at that time. Those marbles stood in the open air for the greater part of 200 years, and now they were in the University Museum. Most of the decorations of the wall had fallen off, but if any body of architects cared to restore it to its original condition, the wall itself was there. It might seem ungracious of him to suggest this small present, but if anyone conceived the idea of such a restoration, it would be much appreciated by himself as Vice-Chancellor and he thought by the University. Having put his suggestion in the form of a request, he would like to say again how happy he was to welcome them there that day.

The President (Mr. J. Alfred Gotch) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vice-Chancellor for the very kind way in which he had welcomed them to the ancient city of Oxford. He should also like to thank him for his reference to the work of members of their great profession or art, and at the

same time to congratulate him that he had never asked for the assistance of an architect in his own beautiful college, and he hoped the Vice-Chancellor might long be spared the necessity of altering the present appearance of that charming building.

Mr. W. H. Stucké, F.R.I.B.A., of Johannesburg, representing the South African Institutes of Architects, seconded the vote of thanks. He said that in South Africa they had not the advantage of the inspiration to be drawn from the old work, with which they were surrounded in this country, and especially in Oxford. Nevertheless they did their best to carry on the traditions which were handed down from their forefathers, and they studied, he could assure them, not only contemporary work, but also the old work. Most of them in the colony were born in England and had the opportunity of studying English architecture in their earlier years. In no country in the world did they get such fine examples of Gothic work as in England.

The Vice-Chancellor, returning thanks, said he was glad that the vote of thanks had been seconded by a member of the British races beyond the seas. Our traditions were their traditions. He thought the University could claim connection with South Africa in that they had just published a book entitled *The Historic Houses of South Africa*. The great aim they in the University and they in their profession and Englishmen everywhere had to consider was how, in these new democratic days that had come and come to stay, they were going to supply the same traditions, the same inspiration which was secured by their forefathers. The great traditions of their country had left them a constitutional heritage which they in democratic days had to maintain. That was their task and they had got to carry it out.

Mr. Edward P. Warren, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association, then delivered his lecture on "An Historical Sketch of Oxford."



## Historical Sketch of Oxford\*

BY EDWARD P. WARREN [F.].

I AM more than conscious, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, of my temerity in venturing here in Oxford, in such august presence, and in a building dedicated to the dignified functions of your ancient university, to offer my poor observations upon the architectural history and the features and aspects of your wonderful city. My endeavour, however, is to offer some small measure of information in regard to the origin and architectural disposition of Oxford, to the less initiated members of my audience, amongst the visitors whom our Conference has, by the good will and courtesy of the University, assembled here to-day, and in regard to whom I am credibly informed that some are actually making on this occasion their first visit to Oxford.

My own first visit was made more years ago than I am inclined to count, but I shall never forget the intensely vivid, the overwhelming impression of the beauty, the glamour, and the character of a city which, to me, has grown in charm, in spite of some of its recent and regrettable expansions, with every recurrent visit, and which I devoutly and admiringly believe to be still the most beautiful in Great Britain.

I am inclined, indeed, to envy the non-initiate amongst our party, the fervour of their first impression.

Of the antiquity of Oxford it is impossible to speak with any precision. Its site, on a broad spit of gravel between two rivers, which, with their tributaries, made it at once so difficult of hostile and so easy of friendly access; the fish, the wattles and the reeds afforded by those rivers, and the pasturage of the level meads watered by them, all contributed to render it the inevitable site, in the first place, of a primitive settlement, and later of a fortified town.

That it was an important town as towns went in the earliest times of which we have record, there is abundant evidence.

One of the first essentials in the position of an ancient town was its possibilities of defence. To the site of Oxford, the many bifurcations, and the double, and, in places, triple, channels of the Cherwell on the east and south-east, to their junction with the broader stream of Thames, which, in its course from the north-west, twice bifurcated and rejoined, protected the western and southern sides. Thus only the north side remained to be protected by a ditch or moat, joining Thames to Cherwell. These features offered peculiar facilities of protection, and could be, as they were, increased by using the earth dug from the moat to form the ramparts of the town, and the mound, which still remains as an evidence of primitive fortification, to protect the western approach.

The position of Oxford, nearly in the centre of a line between the estuaries of Thames and Severn, and upon the line of junction of the primitive land routes from north to south, and east to west, added to its inevitable character as a stronghold and a mart. It offered relatively easy communication with the port of London and the sea, as well as with the fortresses of Windsor and Wallingford. Its primitive walls were probably mere palisades of stout timber, but against primitive weapons and forms of attack, these were sufficiently formidable, though, as we shall see, whatever security they offered did not avail against a determined enemy.

The most determined, and the most dreaded of enemies were the Danes, to whom the Thames estuary offered a ready means of approach, not only to London, but as far as tidal water would carry them, say to Teddington, or on flood tides considerably higher, and who on several occasions pushed high up the Thames, left their ships and marched through the forests of the Chilterns to fall upon Oxford, which they ravaged and burned at least upon three successive occasions, in 979, 1002, and 1010.

The name of Oxford, Oxenford, or Oxnaford, as it was originally known to the Saxons, is sufficiently explanatory, as a ford for oxen, just as Hertford was the harts' ford, or a ford for deer. Oxford, however, possessed three fords at least, and after a long summer drought probably more, in the days of the relatively shallow and rapidly running uncanalised rivers. It must have been a place of some importance as early as 912, as it was then coupled with London in the English Chronicle, in relation to the death of Ethelred, Ealdorman of the Mercians, and the succession of King Eadweard, who "took to himself Lundenbyrg and Oxnaford, and all the lands that were obedient thereto."

It was successively the central southern frontier post of the Kingdom of Mercia, and the northern of that of Wessex. It was frequently the meeting place of the Gemot, and seems to have been the place of the coronation and death of the first Harold, if not his capital. The Gemot probably assembled upon the Castle Mound, as, when it could not be accommodated in a natural amphitheatre, like that of the Moot Hill near Salisbury, its meetings were customarily held on some sort of hill slope.

By the end of the tenth century Oxford, rebuilt and, as the times went, strongly fortified, and possessing at its western extremity some sort of castle or fort upon the Mound in the river loop before referred to, possessed churches, the dwellings of citizens of various degrees, and a market, and early in the eleventh century,

\* Paper read at the Conference on 10 July.

had erected a stone tower which, by the middle of that century was, in all probability, its most conspicuously new, as it is now its most conspicuously ancient, feature, the tower of St. Michael's Church.

When, in the memorable year of 1066 that blessing in disguise, the Norman invasion, fell like a thunderbolt on southern England, and within a few weeks of the battle of Hastings had obliterated the rivalries of Mercia and Wessex, had overwhelmed all opposition, capturing or more often making unopposed entry into fortified places, Oxford was a town of considerable wealth and importance, important enough, in any case, to receive very speedy attention from a Norman army, and to witness the determined entry of D'Oilgi's Force, splashing through the fords of Cherwell and Thames, in jingling chain mail, and conical topped helmets, penons fluttering, kite-shaped shields rattling, and the long swords clanking ominously. Whether the Castle on the mound, or the town within its bulwarks, or both, resisted for a while, there is no certain means of knowing. Some think that there was a short siege, others that submission was immediate. What is very certain is that the conquerors lost little time in taking accurate stock of their new possessions, in repairing the walls and bridges and in setting to work, no doubt with forced local labour, to build a powerful fortress on the site of the Saxon stronghold and its Mound.

With the establishment of the Normans and the Domesday Survey, we at once get upon a firmer footing as to facts and dates, and, by the evidence of that invaluable compilation, we learn that very soon after the Conquest there were at Oxford 243 houses paying "geld" or tax, and 478 unoccupied and ruinous, probably as the result of the recent fire, and, at any rate, unable to pay tax. The King has twenty "wall mansions" which were Earl Algar's in the time of King Edward "paying" as it is stated, "both then and now fourteen shillings less twopence"; and one mansion paying sixpence, belonging to Shipton; another paying fourpence, belonging to Bloxham, a third paying thirty pence, belonging to Risborough; and two others paying fourpence, belonging to Twyford in Buckinghamshire; one of these is unoccupied. They are called wall mansions, "because if there is need and the King command it, they shall repair the wall."

Further we learn that "All the burgesses of Oxenford hold in common a pasture outside the wall that brings in six shillings and eightpence." This pasture is the noble Port Meadow which the burgesses still enjoy, and the income from which seems as modest as the house rents.

Another of the Conqueror's officers—Roger of Ivri, Robert d'Oilgi's brother in arms, held fifteen houses in Oxford and considerable other property. In 1071 D'Oilgi began to build the castle, the great "donjon" or western tower of which still exists, alongside the

Saxon Mound within the lines of the old moat, and upon the bank of the Mill Stream. The old Mill, inventoried in Domesday Book, still exists and functions, under a modernised form.

Other relics of D'Oilgi's building activities are the very interesting and typical Norman crypt of the Church of St. George under the lee of this tower, and the remarkable vaulted well Chamber of the Mound built above the 70 feet shaft of the well.

Further remains of Norman work in Oxford are fairly plentiful but less homogeneous.

The Cathedral is a Norman church, though much amended, and overlaid by later work. In St. Peter's in the East you have the remarkable and beautiful chancel and most characteristic and interesting crypt. There is Norman work in Holywell Church, notably the chancel arch, and a Norman cellar or crypt (either name will serve—the choice is between Latin and Greek derivation) at Frewin Hall.

A couple of miles or less to the eastward of the city is the wonderful little Norman church of Iffley, built in the second half of the twelfth century.

All these instances show the robust, round-arched Norman manner very characteristically.

The Normans were not, of course, the first builders of churches in and around Oxford. The evidence of the building itself seems to show that the tower of St. Michael's Church was prior to their arrival. It was probably damaged by siege or the recent fire, and partial rebuilding therefore necessary. The names of Saxon and of Celtic saints appear in the records of pre-Norman dedications, such as St. Werburgh, St. Mildred, St. Frideswide, and St. Budoc, and it is probable, if uncertain, that beside the nunnery of St. Frideswide, there existed various small religious houses before the Conquest, and that there were schools attached to these which formed the humble beginnings of the great place of learning that was to come. It is at any rate certain that the permanent establishment of the Normans and their soldiery was followed by those of religious orders from France. And this was only natural, for the Normans, albeit hard and dour, were devout, and their religion was a necessary part of their civilisation. Furthermore they were astute enough to welcome, in a strange and hostile country, and near their military strongholds, large monasteries, which represented increased man power, in case of trouble. This reason may account for the later conversion of the nunnery of St. Frideswide into a priory.

The various orders came in rapid succession, the first apparently the Dominicans or Black Friars, to whom lands were given in the Jews Quarter, these they subsequently sold, and re-established themselves in St. Ebbe's parish, where they built a house, church and schools, of which I think there is little or no vestige but the names of Blackfriars Road and Street.

Next came the Franciscans or Grey Friars, who were similarly established, and grew from the humblest beginning and the appropriate simplicity and poverty of their rule, to affluence as well as learning. They also built a large convent, a church and schools. Later came the Benedictines, and the Carmelites or White Friars, all bringing Latin and French, and establishing schools.

The great Abbey of Osney, West of Oxford, was founded early in the twelfth century by Augustinians. The abbey church is reported to have been of great magnificence, and when Oxford ceased to belong to the immense diocese of Lincoln, the abbey became a cathedral and the abbot a bishop. Nothing of this abbey remains to-day, and little or any of the other religious houses, such as Rewley Abbey, that surrounded Oxford. Their schools and the influence of those schools, and the scholarship promoted amongst the various orders, greatly helped to establish the early repute of Oxford as a place of learning allied to religion, a conjunction that was accepted as so obvious and natural, that in the early days of the University, its chief secular business, its meetings and disputations were carried on within the walls of the University Church of St. Mary the Virgin, before the building of the Divinity School, and the "Old" Schools in the quadrangle beneath the Bodleian Library.

Learning at Oxford was, in the early days of the University, not well housed, but as time brought increased wealth and increased numbers, it brought with them an increased demand for appropriate buildings, and a natural desire for architectural dignity. So, from uncertain and humble beginnings, through times of great hardship and difficulty, strife and disaster, through pestilence and famine, oppression and war, the little University in the little town between the rivers, has grown to world-wide fame and immense influence and prestige, and the town to a city celebrated for the beauty, the character and the interest of its buildings.

To understand Oxford of to-day, it is first necessary to understand the form and disposition of mediæval Oxford, the little walled town compressed within its fortifications, some of which happily survive.

This, as you will see by Agas's old map, presents the plan of an irregular oblong rather sack-like in form, roughly speaking some half-mile in length from east to west, and a quarter-mile in width from north to south, and having a more or less square eastern end or base, and converging at the west end towards a nearly circular head which is the Castle with its "enceinte" and the Moat formed by artificial extension of a river bend. Agas's and other old maps show the walls quite clearly, and you may still, and with ease and comfort, see a considerable length of the northern and eastern portions, which form the boundary of New College

garden, where you will see a typical bastion, and may observe that the beautiful little bell tower of that college occupies the site of another bastion, and was, in fact, a defensive tower in the fortified line. The outer side of this wall is fully visible on the north side of New College, and at intervals behind the houses of Long Wall, where the eastern side of the old city wall ran southward to the east gate, at the end of High Street, and thence south-west and westward enclosing Merton College, where further portions of wall and bastion may still be seen, to enclose Corpus College and Christ Church, just west of which was the south gate, and the bridge or Grand Pont, thence skirting the southern side of Pembroke College, to turn north westward towards the Castle ditch and the western city gate; and north-eastward to the north gate flanked by St. Michael's Church and the tower jocularly known as Bocardo, and so called, it is said, from a difficult figure in logic, easier to get into than out of; now long demolished, and which had a somewhat dismal history as a jail or lock-up. Thence the wall ran eastward, along the southern side of Broad Street, crossing the site of the Sheldonian Theatre, and passing behind that of the old Clarendon Press building, where it is indicated by lines cut into the pavement, to continue to the Tower of New College before referred to, but pierced, just north of Hertford College and the Chapel of St. Catherine, by a small gate which was known as Smith Gate.

It will be seen that several of the old colleges lie outside of the walls, Balliol, Trinity, St. John's and Wadham to the north, Worcester—formerly Gloucester Hall—to the north-west, and Magdalen to the east, six in all, but all, excepting perhaps St. John's and Wadham, built during a period when city walls were still of importance. It was necessary then that the extra mural mediæval college should be something of a fortress in itself.

The thirteenth century saw much new work in the Cathedral, and most of St. Giles's Church, with its very unusual four-gabled south aisle and lancet windows, built before the end of its first quarter. The middle of the century added the handsome arcaded belfry stage to the Cathedral tower and the short octagonal spire and columnar angle pinnacles. Towards its end, and in a manner changing rapidly to what we know as the decorated or early fourteenth century manner, came the beautiful choir of Merton College Chapel, and the elaborate shrine of St. Frideswide in the Cathedral. The fourteenth century added much that still remains at Oxford, including the rebuilding of the old city wall, much of which is still to be seen. But Oxford, like so many other English towns, suffered in its building activities and its crafts by the deadly arrest of the Black Death, which paralysed them for a score or so of years after 1348, and you will



find little work dating from that period of gloom and depopulation; towards the end, however, came the superb achievement of New College.

The fifteenth century, busy and active, added immensely to the buildings of Oxford, much that has disappeared and much that most happily remains. This period, indeed, set a fashion of college architecture in Oxford that prevailed in essentials into the seventeenth century. The fifteenth saw the transepts and fine tower of Merton completed, Balliol hall and library built, All Souls' Front Quadrangle and Chapel, the Divinity School, and at Magdalen St. John's Quadrangle, the Founder's and Muniment towers, the chapel, hall and cloisters, and, finally, at its very termination, the admirable bell tower, begun at the close of the century and completed in the early years of the sixteenth, a fitting culmination to a splendid group.

The sixteenth century saw Wolsey's ambitious and magnificent conversion of a monastic "house" into his Cardinal's College, now Christ Church, the building of the noble dining hall. The great quadrangle, which contains the Canon's dwellings, and the various offices of this college, and forms a splendid vestibule of approach to the Cathedral, the long and finely proportioned front, with the great central gateway, and the flanking and angle turrets along St. Aldate's, the gate tower of which remained unfinished till Wren added, late in the next century, the belfry that houses "Great Tom." This century was, later, too much disturbed by the Reformation and religious and political troubles, until its fourth quarter, for much building; but what it did build was mostly in conservative "Perpendicular" Gothic, a manner it carried on, albeit with some semi-classical embellishments, well into, and as we have seen a little beyond, the seventeenth century.

Of early seventeenth century architecture, of Elizabethan and Jacobean work, Oxford is full in its university, collegiate and domestic buildings. To the later seventeen and early eighteenth centuries, Wren and his followers contributed many buildings which, after two centuries or more, are characteristic features of the Oxford of to-day.

I do not attempt to describe these buildings; they are before you, and you will see them for yourselves under the conduct, if you so desire it, of the initiated ladies and gentlemen who have volunteered for that service.

In England, and especially in Oxford, the native local style of building lingered long after the partial adoption of a foreign manner, known as that of the Renaissance, and derived from the French, the Flemings and the Germans, who were copying the Italians, who were copying, more or less, the remains of Roman buildings and Greek statuary which they were rediscovering.

The acceptance in this country was, for a long time, slow and half-hearted, and, throughout England, and more particularly in the west, there are many curious and interesting instances of survivals of and reversion to the native manner of Gothic architecture, but none, as far as I am aware, more marked than in Oxford, which has been called in another relation "the home of lost causes," and has certainly been so in regard to Native Gothic architecture, when that was already a lost cause elsewhere.

To cite three well-known instances, you have the deliberately Gothic College, founded, endowed and built in 1610, by Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham. This College was destined, curiously, a little later to become the academic cradle of our greatest "Renaissance Architect"—Sir Christopher Wren, who, however, had his moments of reversion to Gothic types.

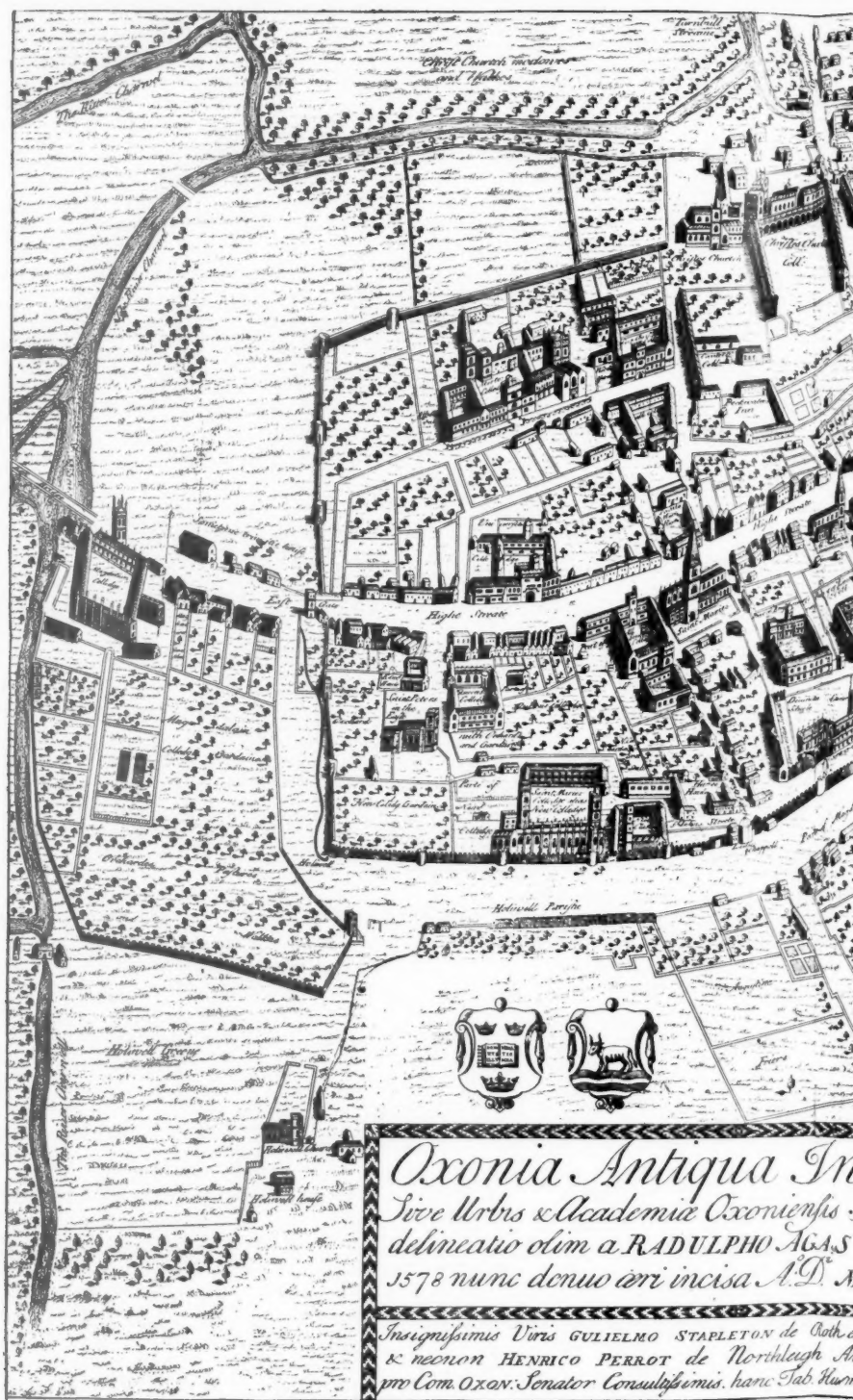
You then have two remarkable anachronisms in manner. The elaborate porch, actually Gothic in its general conception, but most deliberately and determinedly classic in detail and intention, added in 1637 to the Gothic University Church of St. Mary the Virgin, by the gift of Archbishop Laud's Chaplain—Dr. Morgan Owen, and by a designer of uncertain identity, thought by some to be Nicholas Stone, an attribution to which I personally incline. Three years later came the beautiful fan-vaulted staircase of Christ Church Hall, deliberately Gothic in all constructive essentials, and in general effect, but bearing indications of its actual period in its roof bosses and minor details.

There is, however, a still more startling instance of anachronism, of which I have only become definitely aware quite lately, in the buildings forming the east and west sides of the Middle Quadrangle at Oriel. These, with their mullioned windows, their doorways, strong courses, and hood moulds, and their coped and curvilinear gablets, all in the pronounced manner of the early seventeenth century, or as we call it, Jacobean Gothic, date from the early years of the eighteenth century, 1719 and 1723.

You will see, therefore, that the student of architecture in Oxford must be well instructed as to dates, or walk warily in regard to attributed periods. He needs local as well as general historical knowledge.

The theatre in which we are assembled, built by the munificence of Archbishop Sheldon and opened in 1669, was one of Wren's first essays in architecture, and still, as you observe, serves its purposes not unfitly.

Several buildings in Oxford are attributed to him without the warrant of positive evidence; but since it is well known that his advice was as freely given as it was freely sought, it is probable that, in many instances, he gave general advice without supplying positive directions or drawings. He appears, however, to have been





*Instaurata  
Exoniensis Topographica  
A. G. S. impressa A. D.  
1732. MDCCXXXII.*

*J. de Rothe sculpsit Grays Barometter  
W. Leigh Armigerus in Regni Comitijs  
Tab. Numm. D. D. D. Guil. Williams.*

employed upon work at Trinity College, and the north wing of the Garden Court is confidently attributed to him, and is said to have been in progress before the theatre was completed.

He advised as to the rebuilding of Queen's College, and designed the chapel, and the design exists, though different in detail to that executed. But since Hawksmoor, his pupil and friend, is known to have carried out the front quadrangle and its imposing screen and cupola, it is very possible that Wren, who was getting very old (he died in 1723 at the age of 91), gave advice, and, very likely, rough sketches for both chapel and hall. The old hall or "refectory" was only pulled down in 1722, so that it is unlikely that Sir Christopher can have seen the building of the new one.

In regard to the chapel, more confidently attributed to him, it may be that he had made drawings for this and the hall, and that Hawksmoor carried out both. The general treatment of the front quadrangle, and the screen, completed about 1730, most probably were derived from the great man's inspiration. These striking features, however, so closely resemble in idea Dr. Caius' Court and Gate of Honour at Caius College, Cambridge, which gave to his college a quadrangle with the chapel forming the north side, dwellings upon the east and west, and the low screen and fine central gate on the south side, planned carefully by the very able and rather meticulous doctor for the admission of southern sunshine, on clearly and emphatically stated grounds of health, that it seem unlikely that the resemblance is accidental.

Dr. Caius had set a new fashion, in the open-fronted College Court. Hawksmoor, at any rate, repeated this form in his Great Quadrangle at All Souls College, next door, but in this instance, his "open" side, with its low central screen and gateway, is of necessity the west side, and, like all that he did at All Souls, is in the "Gothic manner." His queer, thin, but picturesque twin towers, which seem to have been suggested by the west front of a church, perhaps by Wren's suggestions for Westminster Abbey, face the screen on the east side of the quadrangle. On the north side of this fine court, and over the central doorway of the Codrington Library, is an indubitable bit of Wren's work, designed by him as a Fellow, as he had become, for his own college. This is the great sundial which he sets out, and which was first put up on the north side of the beautiful and complete little front quadrangle, upon the range combining chapel and hall.

Hawksmoor's work at All Souls is much criticised, but whatever its merits or demerits, one most conspicuous service rendered by him to that College, to Oxford and the world, should never be forgotten. This service was to protest against, and successfully, the demolition, actually proposed to him by the Col-

lege, of the beautiful little front quadrangle with its entrance tower on the High Street, almost all of the fifteenth century and very perfect. He thus resisted the opportunity of planning and building a complete new College. He says: "Whatever is good in its kind ought to be preserved in respect to antiquity as well as our present advantage, for destruction can be profitable to none but such as live by it. What I am offering at in this article is for the preservation of Antient durable Publick Buildings that are strong and usfull, instead of erecting new fantastick perishable Trash."

He carried the day, and the quadrangle and its tower remain, as you will, I hope, see for yourselves this afternoon.

With this fine achievement, which should insure to Nicholas Hawksmoor a niche in any future hall of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, we may, in all honour and regard, bid adieu to his memory, whether or no we agree with Walpole in his dictum upon his work at All Souls, that "the Architect has blundered into a picturesque scenery not devoid of grandeur." If he had not won his victory, you would be unable to see several very beautiful and interesting things that I hope you will see. On the east side of the front quadrangle and on the first floor is the elaborate and charming old library, late Elizabethan or early Jacobean, with its fascinating ceiling, its "lantern" pendants, its panelling and its heraldry. You will also see the fine little Chapel, its imposing oak screen, and its admirable old glass. The hall and its pictures, and the very handsome Codrington Library, which contain amongst its chief treasures, a large collection of Wren's drawings. It should be borne in mind that the College of All Souls, or "All Soulen College," was founded by Archbishop Chichele, himself a Wykehamist, in 1437, for the study of philosophy, theology and law, but primarily and ostensibly as a war memorial, where masses might be sung for the souls of those who fell in the French wars.

I must apologise if my dates and references seem to come in odd order, but Wren and Hawksmoor have led me to All Souls, and that College not unnaturally to some hint of its origin.

It is easier to trace the origin and dates of foundation of the colleges than those of the university itself, and my temerity, in this presence, carries me no further than the statement that the University of Paris appears to have been, to some extent, a model for that of Oxford, and that, as the University of Paris is thought to have grown from the schools of Notre Dame, that of Oxford may have found its origin in those of St. Frideswide, which appear to have been grouped to the westward of the church of that saint, and therefore to have occupied part of the sites of Christ Church and Tom Quad.



A strong connection with France was a natural outcome of the Norman Conquest, and about a hundred years after that event there seems to have been a migration of English students from Paris to Oxford. There is frequent mention of French speaking at Oxford, and nothing can be more likely than that, under Norman-French dominance, and with a French-speaking garrison at the Castle, that tongue should have been, as it was at Westminster, the common speech of the educated classes.

Mr. Boase, in his book on Oxford, states that a statute of the thirteen century ordains that Latin should be construed in English and French alternately, less French be dropped altogether.

What I believe may chiefly interest my brother architects, who are present in such numbers to-day, is the evolution and establishment both at Oxford and at Cambridge, of the typical grouping and form of college buildings, and it seems to me that, as the more ancient university of the two and possessing, in Merton College, the earliest of deliberate college foundations, and in New College the most typical early instance of carefully ordained architectural grouping, on a well conceived plan, it is at Oxford that the earliest type may be best studied.

But before considering the matured college plan it will be well to give a little attention to the secular halls of various dates and descriptions, like the hostels or cells of religious orders, whose monasteries were at some distance, which were the precursors of the colleges, and several of which existed as separate corporations and separate architectural entities until the last quarter of last century, when they were absorbed by colleges. One, however, remains, as in plan and general arrangement a little college, complete with chapel, hall and library. This is St. Edmund's Hall in Queen's Lane, and upon the south side of the Church of St. Peter's in the East, of the south side of whose churchyard it forms the boundary. It is very well worth visiting, as the one remaining instance of a "Hall" in use as such, and for its individual charm and interest. It was founded, or refounded, in the latter half of the sixteenth century, but tradition attributes its foundation to St. Edmund in the early part of the thirteenth century.

Halls, houses or hostels, for they were known by all these names, were the original communal lodgings of poor scholars, and were the natural outcome of mediæval conditions. Bands of poor scholars made their way from different parts of the country, from north, south, east or west, to seek learning at Oxford. They naturally clung together in a strange town, and grouped themselves round their leader, who by seniority, superiority of education or force of character assumed or was chosen for that position. Thus the position of head, or Master, under whatever title, filled itself naturally, and the other very necessary official, the treasurer, purse

keeper, or "bursar," to see to the collection and expenditure of the pooled resources of the group, was found in one of its members having the required aptitudes.

These groupings of students, generally formed by young men coming from distant towns or countries occurred throughout Europe wherever universities were established, at Bologna, Salamanca, Paris and elsewhere. In Paris these groups of students, whose hostels grew eventually into important colleges, were known as "nations," even when they represented other towns or provinces in France—nations of Picardy and Normandy as well as of England, Scotland and Ireland. The same system obtained amongst the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, in their establishment at Malta, where the hostelries, which grew to be rather magnificent buildings, are still known as "auberges," or inns, like our own Inns of Court, and where the different nationalities were known as the "langue" or language of France, of Italy, of Castille, etc.

At Worcester College there still happily exists a small group of mediæval buildings which are the chief remains of Gloucester Hall, which ceased, in name, to exist in 1714, when the site, buildings, and title were merged in the new foundation of Worcester College. These small stone buildings are interesting intrinsically for their actual charm, and as types of the early monastic hostels, known as "cells" or "cameras," which were built to house the students sent to Oxford from various Benedictine abbeys or monasteries, mostly in the southern provinces. They possess a good deal of time-worn detail in windows, doorways and mouldings, but have been a good deal altered, and adapted to later uses. They still bear carved stone coats of arms, of some of the monastic houses or the foundations which they represented, and formed a portion, since the Reformation, of the general buildings of Gloucester Hall, which retained the name of the great monastery of Gloucester. The monasteries of Abingdon, Bury St. Edmunds, Coventry, Evesham, Eynsham, Glastonbury, Norwich, Reading, St. Albans, and Westminster were all formerly represented by cells on this site.

In Oxford, probably in imitation of Paris, the scholars were divided into nations, northern and southern, with proctors to keep order, and the respective nations were careful, as Mr. Boase tells us in his excellent book of the Historic Towns series, that one of these proctors should always be a south and the other a north countryman. The Irish and Welsh, he says, usually sided with the southerners, and the Scotch with the northerners, and that "in 1389 the northerners sacked several halls and much ill-treated the Welsh," while you may be surprised to learn, from the same source, that "in 1401 the Irish had a riot of their own, and they were mostly banished in 1422."

The earliest secular halls were sometimes mere assemblages of students in any obtainable lodging, or, in many cases, in an inn. As time went on, some of the more numerous or richer groups managed to acquire stone houses, mostly built by the Jews, as before stated, and roofed with the stone tiles which are the characteristic and beautiful roofing material in Oxford, but which, alas! have, in view of expense, yielded place enormously of late, to red tiles, or the abomination of purple Welsh slates.

These halls were, of course, at first, merely ordinary dwelling-houses, small and roughly adapted to their use by the students. A kitchen, a common room for meals, and a few bedrooms or a loft capable of use as a dormitory, were usually all they had to boast, or all indeed that was demanded of them.

They were often known by names derived from their external peculiarities, or from their position, their owners, or the patron saint of a neighbouring church. There were such names as Broadgates Hall, Angle Hall, White Hall, and Black Hall, the last still existing, in name, at any rate, in a fine seventeenth century house opposite St. Giles's Church, in the wide street to the north known as St. Giles's. Chimney Hall, as says Cecil Headlam, to whose *Story of Oxford* I am indebted for much information about these halls, "recalls the days when a large chimney was a rarity." Many halls retained the names of their owners, like Peckwater's Inn, formerly on the site of Peckwater Quad. at Christ Church, others from the signs of the inns in which they were first established, or the signs they had adopted for distinction, and had hung over their doors, such as the Brazen Nose, the Eagle, the Elephant, the Saracen's Head and the Swan. Of the existing inns, the Clarendon was built on the site of an old inn or hall known as the Star; the Roebuck was once Coventry Hall.

The halls or hostels, in the process of time, as the University gathered power and prestige, and the benefactions of the rich and benevolent were attracted to Oxford, being found to be insufficient for the influx of students, the deliberate foundation and building of colleges naturally followed.

University College claims, and apparently with justice, to be the earliest of University endowments. At first known as the Great, or Mickle University Hall; it had a North-country connection, and was endowed in 1249 by William, Archdeacon of Durham. Statutes were granted to the Hall in 1280, which I suppose may be taken as the date of incorporation. At first established on the north side of the High Street, moved in 1332 to its present site on the southern side of that street, where its fine, long and homogeneous front, though it is not all of one date, adds immensely to its character and dignity.

It is, however, to Merton College that we must turn for the first example of a college deliberately founded

*de novo* upon a carefully preordained scheme. Merton College was founded by Walter de Merton, of Merton in Surrey, a man of great ability and distinction, sometime Chancellor to Henry III, and Bishop of Rochester, from whom he obtained a charter in 1264 to incorporate his establishment of Scholars of Merton, at Malden in Surrey, into an independent society. Later, in 1274, he transferred this establishment to Oxford to its present site, purchased from the Abbey of Reading and incorporating the Parish Church of St. John. His intention was to provide means of maintenance for poor students, and their education for the service of Church and State, and he drew up careful and exact rules for the governance of his College. He banned all Monastic influence; no monk or friar was to be admitted on his foundation, but the secular clergy only.

Of the first buildings of Merton College, little now remains. Some of the carving over the College gateway, the great north door of the hall, and perhaps the treasury and part of the sacristy. The noble chapel, the hall, and the incomparable library, as well as the charming inner quadrangle known as Mob Quad., are all of later date. The choir of the chapel dates from the end of the thirteenth century, the transepts begun apparently in that century or early in the fourteenth, but were not completed till the fifteenth, while the fine tower was finished in 1451. The chapel seems to have been planned as a cruciform church, with nave, transepts and choir, but the nave was never built, perhaps in imitation of the plan of the Chapel of New College, which, though begun much later, was finished earlier.

Merton College, albeit possessed of extraordinary charm and beauty, is not a typical college, as we understand that term, in general plan or arrangement. Its planning is irregular and not deliberately evolved.

Its nearest contemporary, or immediate successor in date of foundation, Balliol College, founded in 1266, possesses no buildings coeval with the earliest of Merton, and was upon a smaller scale; it still possesses its old hall and library and a very beautiful oriel window all of the fifteenth century, but beyond the plan of its front quadrangle and entrance, which is of the accepted college type of the fifteenth century, it has been so much rebuilt and modernised that it neither conveys the effect of its antiquity, nor its original disposition.

As a nobly conceived and nobly executed group of college buildings, finely planned and finely built, the New College of St. Mary de Winton, commonly called New College, founded in 1379 by William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, presents, as I think, the most perfect type of the mediæval college and one of the most remarkable instances of adroit and supremely dignified use of an irregular and somewhat difficult site to be found in, or out of, this country. I speak of the original buildings of the founder. The beautiful

Front quadrangle was badly marred in the seventeenth century by the clumsy addition of a storey to the long, low fourteenth century buildings, and the high northern range of chapel and hall have suffered in consequence by the alteration of scale thus occasioned. But they are noble buildings in themselves, albeit somewhat mauled in recent times. The very perfect little cloister, with its chestnut timbered roof, its garth intended as a cemetery for the Society, the admirably proportioned bell tower, on the rampart line, the warden's lodgings, the simple and dignified College gateway, and the bold and charming device of the arched wing of the lodgings, carried over the lane to increase building space, and form a bridge for the warden to his garden, and to the noble tithe barn, which faces the long stable buildings on this northern side of the lane, are all intact, or so little touched that the sense of the fourteenth century seems still to linger about the grey old walls.

In the antechapel you have the contrast of the fine traditional craftsmanship of the fifteenth century glass, with the graceful and accomplished sentimentalism—divorced from craftsmanship—of the late eighteenth.

Intended by its founder as a senior college or secondary school to his College at Winchester for younger scholars, Wykeham achieved at once two great educational ideals. He founded together a model college and a model public school, both housed in noble buildings. He was a most remarkable man, astute, practical, a great man of affairs, and with a sure instinct for architecture, fostered no doubt by his early contact with the crafts, and some early practice in business by his juvenile experiences. Born the son of a carpenter at Wykeham, he was educated at a grammar school, and subsequently in a notary's office. He was sometime supervisor of the King's works at Windsor, where, it may be presumed, he learned architecture. Oxford owes him much, his college became a model in many respects, architectural and other. His conjunction of public school and college was copied by Henry VI., in his linking of Eton with King's College, Cambridge, and later by Sir Thomas White in linking his College of St. John with Merchant Taylors' School, while his architectural conception of a college was largely imitated at Oxford. This is conspicuously the case in respect to the chapel plan, adopted by so many of the subsequent chapels, of the long collegiate or monastic choir, screened from a short nave arranged for four altars, but large enough to form an antechapel, capable of being used, as before the Reformation it frequently was used, for lectures and disputations. His placing of hall and chapel in one continuous range, as the side of a quadrangle, you will find in several other colleges. It is observable that at New College the high range of chapel and hall is placed upon the

north side of the quadrangle, the best position, as, while shutting no sunshine off the quadrangle, it receives full sunshine itself on its southern flank.

Time and your patience I fear will not permit me to describe or even to mention more than a very few of the other fine colleges of Oxford, all of which are interesting in their degree and most of which have interest and beauty of a very high order. I must, however, and on every account, say something of Magdalen, where the adroit use of an unusually beautiful site, the happy adaptation of the existing buildings of the Hospital of St. John, the fine proportions and beautiful detail of its mediæval buildings, and the very dignified range of the early eighteenth century known as the New Buildings, form a college group which with its deer park, great trees, wide garden and river walks amid the windings of the Cherwell, make of Magdalen a collegiate pleasance unlike anything else in the world.

Like New College, it had a great, energetic and rich founder in William of Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, and first Provost of Eton, who founded the College of St. Mary Magdalen about 1448. The long southern front, aligning the roadway between the site of the old East Gate, and the Bridge, stands upon and incorporates parts of the buildings of the Hospital of St. John, and contains, in a blocked doorway still in evidence, the dole-gate where doles or food were handed out to pilgrims, or the poor students trudging to their homes and provided with the chancellor's licence to beg.

The fine bell tower, whose proportions give it a greater apparent height than it possesses—it is only about 120 feet high to the top of the parapet, and 110 feet to that of the pinnacles, was begun about 1492, and took 11 years to complete. The design appears to be so perfect as it stands, that it greatly surprised me, when entrusted with its repair some dozen years ago, to find that the very effective octagonal angle buttresses were not originally intended, the quoins of plainly finished angles existing behind them. This shows that the whole design of the noble crown of pierced parapet, angle and intermediate pinnacles, could not have been part of the designer's first intentions.

The most remarkable cloisters, with their buttresses, symbolic figures and grotesques, were evidently built on the mediæval model but without intention of the mediæval use as a place for exercise and meditation in the open air, but rather as a convenient covered passage of connection, around the new fashion of quadrangle, between the various parts of the college, the chapel, the hall and its offices, the President's lodgings, the library, and the various chambers and dwellings of the college, which form the main body of the college, the intended entrance being by the door in

the superb Founders Tower, the old irregular quadrangle of St. John remaining as a sort of forecourt.

The delightful Grammar Hall on the west side of St. John's Quadrangle is a relic of the former foundation, and the most effective and proportionate buildings between Tower and river though thoroughly Gothic in type were not added until later.

The "New Buildings," across the wide garden to the north of the Cloisters, were put up in or about 1733.

The latest addition of St. Swithun's Quadrangle was built in 1882, from the designs of Messrs. G. F. Bodley, R.A., and Thos. Garner. The Quadrangle, however, has never been fully completed.

It will be observed that the New College plans of forming one side of the quadrangle, by placing the chapel and hall end to end, under one roof, was copied here, and that the short nave or antechapel of which that college had set the fashion, was here observed.

Magdalen has always maintained a strong connection with Winchester, whose bishop is the visitor of the College, and with Eton through its founder, but it has three Schools for boys of its own, one at its gates, one at Brackley, and one at Waynflete.

I can only briefly mention one other college, of a later date, and of conspicuous interest and beauty, the College of St. John, in the broad street known as St. Giles, and, like Magdalen, outside the city walls.

Again, like Magdalen, this college was built upon the site, and incorporated part of the buildings of an older foundation, the suppressed College of St. Bernard, founded in 1437 by Archbishop Cichele for the Cistercian monks of Rewly Abbey, dissolved by Henry VIII.

The College of St. John Baptist, was founded in 1555, by Sir Thomas White, Merchant Taylor, and twice Lord Mayor of London, and preserves in the range which forms the west front, with its Tower Gateway, a portion of St. Bernard's College, together with the interesting forecourt enclosed by low stone walls, with a heavy weathered coping. St. John's being the only college to retain its external forecourt intact, though Balliol, upon the evidence of eighteenth century prints, retained one until far into that century, and Wadham retains the form, but fenced with

modern railings. St. John's presents, in plan, no unusual features. It accepted the admitted type, but, in proportion, charm of design and of detail, as well as in the beauty of its garden it has its own extreme distinction. Its Hall and its Chapel, 1502-30, are placed wisely on the north side of its first quadrangle, like those of New College. In the inner or Canterbury Quadrangle, which was completed about 1636, it has semi-classical colonnades, and a magnificent central "frontispiece," with admirable bronze statues of Charles I and Henrietta Maria.

The colonnades, as a convenient college adjunct, may have been suggested by the arcades of Magdalen cloisters. The college is, of course, indelibly associated with the memory of Archbishop Laud, President of the College, and sometime Chancellor, whose distinction of taste, scholarship and conspicuous loyalty are reflected in the beauty of the Canterbury Quadrangle, whose name commemorates his Archbishopric, in the rich and handsome library, in the royal statues, and in the extreme beauty of the east or garden front of this remarkable college. There are many other colleges of great interest—historical and architectural, with which I must not attempt to deal, within my space.

I wish in the presence of architects to pay a passing tribute to the talents of an amateur architect, Dean Aldrich, who designed the existing Church of All Saints, and Peckwater Quadrangle at Christ Church.

I cannot trespass further upon your time and patience, but I am sure that those of my audience who have already seen something of Oxford, and you will all, indeed, be of that number by this time to-morrow, will admit the impossibility of conveying anything further than the merest suggestion of its architecture, as illustrating its history, and of its history as explaining its architecture, within the limits of even a longer paper than mine, and I fear, indeed, that it may have been, with all its omissions and abstentions, barely within the limits of your patience.

May I end by expressing the hope that those of you who are here for the first time may carry away the happiest impressions of your visit, that those others to whom Oxford was already known may find, as I have always found, that her charm ever increases and her interest never fails.



## Town Planning in a City like Oxford\*

BY RAYMOND UNWIN [F.]

THE historical sketch of Oxford which we have had the advantage of hearing from Mr. Edward Warren to-day has relieved me of any necessity to say much as to what "like" of city Oxford has been in the past. In view, however, of its bearing on the town planning of such a city, I may perhaps refer to the extent that its history has been influenced by its dual life. This has sometimes given rise to conflict of interest and divergence of purpose; at other times there has been a realisation of the interdependence of the University and the town, and an appreciation of the necessity for an accommodation of the interests of these two important sections of the community and mutual respect for their needs. For some four centuries probably, perhaps for much longer, before it was known as a seat of learning, Oxford developed as an important commercial centre, taking rank among the first half-dozen English cities of the period. In those days it owed nothing of its influence or its importance to a University: it owed much, however, to its geographical situation, on the natural highway of commerce afforded by the River Thames, and to the fertile regions of inland country around it. We have been familiar with the mythical association of the University with Alfred the Great. Whatever truth there may be in that tradition, authorities, so far as I know them, seem generally agreed that Oxford was an important city, at any rate by the end of the ninth century; while it was not until the end of the twelfth or beginning of the thirteenth century that the gathering of teachers and scholars, that developed into the University, assumed such importance as to exert an effective influence on the life of the city, or to become a rival authority to that of the municipal government. From that period however, the University seems to have grown rapidly in power and authority. Gradually, not without fierce and sometimes bloody conflict, aided by the King and the Church, it established so complete a control that the commercial development of the city on independent lines was arrested, and the town of Oxford gradually became more and more occupied in the housing, feeding, clothing, and supplying the other material wants of the Ecclesiastical Orders, the students, and their teachers, who made up the University. Only in comparatively modern times, and in some respects within the memory of many of us here, has the city of Oxford recovered complete municipal autonomy, and there are fields of jurisdiction which are still shared with the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors.

These two distinct and fully developed branches of life, the University and the Commercial Town, are still

the most notable characteristics. Their different needs and the extent of their mutual dependence constitute some of the most fundamental considerations affecting the town planning of the city.

There have been many changes here during the last half century since the days when as a boy I first learnt to love the place and its buildings, shared its rich opportunities, heard something of beauty from Ruskin and of civic duty from the liberal-minded rector of Carfax Church, long ago removed. At that time the City Fathers still attended the church in their robes of office, marching in procession from the Town Hall every Sunday morning. Though there is much that one misses with regret, I am glad to believe that there has been a great growth of mutual understanding and respect on the part of the City and the University. Ardently as anyone familiar with Oxford in the seventies must wish that it had been possible then to obtain the protection and guidance of a town planning scheme, I am not sure that at that time it might not have been difficult to secure the degree of understanding between Town and Gown, and the harmony of aims in regard to the city, which are essential to the working out of a good plan for its future development. To-day there is every reason to hope for hearty co-operation in this work. The harmony thus secured, and the promise it affords for the future, are no small compensation for the losses in buildings and spots of beauty, some of which might perhaps have been preserved had we as a people earlier waked up to the need for planning and guidance in the development of our cities.

Oxford is not alone in that its town planning problems are peculiar. Every city has its own special conditions and needs. One may say of each great city that it has a character, almost a personality, of its own, which the town planner should seek to preserve and develop. But of few cities are the special circumstances so important, and the character so unique, as in the case of Oxford; consequently they should be a dominating influence in the planning of the city. There are university cities in which the town is so large and important that the University exerts little appreciable influence on its development; there are others in which the town is so small that its chief function is, and is likely to remain, that of ministering to the material needs of the University. Oxford is in a very different position. Here the city is the older partner: it has a long and honourable history. On many occasions it has been chosen as the seat or refuge of the English Parliament. Before the University was constituted the town had intimate connection, almost on a footing of equality, with the City of London. The City Fathers have been brought into relations of

\* A Paper read at the Conference on 10 July.

special loyalty with several of the Kings and Queens of England. The town has, indeed, a life history and a personality of its own. At the same time, its relation to the great University, which has an equally glorious past, and an even more world-wide reputation, has been one of the greatest interdependence and intimacy, not always free from strain or jealousy. The ties which unite the two resemble, perhaps, the union and the bonds of matrimony. The problems of their mutual relations and their rights are at least not unlike those of two married people, each of whom has a strong individuality and is inspired by the honourable desire for a personal career. Such a relationship will not be permanently harmonious on the basis of the subordination of either party, but only on that of mutual respect and understanding, on a right appreciation of the importance of the different functions which each has to perform, and a due acceptance of the limitations which their relationship and their dependence on one another must impose on both alike.

When we consider that this dual life of such exceptional interest and value is housed in and about an ancient city, which, as a mere collection of buildings of interest and beauty, constitutes one of the greatest and most highly prized treasures of the world, we shall begin to realise something of the difficulty, and something too of the fascination, which the preparation of a town plan for Oxford and the surrounding lands will present. In the joint working out of this plan, we may confidently hope for a further advance of that mutual appreciation between the University and the City which has already made so much progress, since the time when T. H. Green, of Balliol, made the encouragement of good understanding between these two bodies one of the aims of his life.

In few other towns do the young citizens have such opportunities for the enjoyment of culture or the acquisition of knowledge. For such advantages it would not be an excessive price if the citizens were to be asked to stand a little aside from the great rush towards industrial and commercial pre-eminence which absorbs the life of many other less fortunate towns. On the other hand, perhaps in no other University have the students quite so good an opportunity of establishing contact with the forms of English municipal government and the traditions of civic independence upon which so much of our national life and liberty depend. In few other places has such a complete and characteristic University life been preserved; in some sense it is a life apart; nevertheless there is here this unique opportunity to maintain, during those impressionable years spent on the academic course, a contact with a very living city, which, if taken advantage of, will add enormously to the value of the knowledge and experience acquired at this great seat of learning. For such advantages the University may well concede

all the scope and opportunities for civic life and development which can be provided without actual detriment to the purpose it exists to serve.

We may confidently expect that in making their plans University and Municipality alike will cheerfully recognise the duty which they owe to mankind to preserve from injury the unique beauty of the city which they have jointly inherited. Sharing the respect and affection for their common home, they may be relied on the more willingly to put up with such comparative inconvenience as may be necessary to conserve its character. As it becomes urgent to solve the problems which progress brings up—problems of congested traffic, of expanding commerce, of modern requirements in sanitation, and the like, before adopting any solution dangerous to the existing beauty they will search diligently for alternative methods, seeking each time to find the way out of or round their difficulties which will best harmonise with the *genius loci* so highly treasured.

The right of the present generation to a reasonable enjoyment of the advantages which present knowledge makes possible must not be ignored; nevertheless it will be realised that in Oxford there are offered other special opportunities and enjoyments not available elsewhere. It may well be the privilege of her present inhabitants to forgo some degree of realisation of the new opportunities which are so common in other places, that there may be preserved in greater perfection those older and more unique treasures which here alone are to be found. While, no doubt, we shall vary in our views as to the price which we should be willing to pay in personal deprivation or inconvenience to preserve the spirit and character of Oxford, perhaps I may assume agreement as to the outstanding importance in this city of such preservation, and pass on to suggest the bearing which this agreed attitude will have upon one or two matters connected with the practical problem of preparing a town planning scheme for the district. First let me heartily congratulate the City Corporation and their officials on the steps already taken. Instead of being content with a small scheme for the unbuilt-on area within the city boundaries, they have taken a more adequate view of the area which is intimately bound up with Oxford, and have realised that the built-up centre of the city is vital to the scheme. Authority has now been given by the Minister of Health for a scheme to be prepared for practically all the land within a radius of three miles from Carfax. At no distant date a preliminary statement of the proposals will be called for. It will be realised that town planning on this scale is no mere scheme for developing a few housing sites, as some seem to think. On the other hand, it is no scheme for stereotyping in detail the planning of all the sites within that vast area.

Nor is a town planning scheme a preliminary measure

to the enlargement of the borough boundary; on the contrary, while it secures co-operation in planning, it leaves full autonomy to surrounding authorities in administration. Town planning is, in fact, the application of imagination, skill and foresight to direct and guide the future development of the area, instead of leaving it entirely to the mercy of the haphazard play of individual interest or caprice. It consists in looking ahead, studying the growing requirements of the district, foreseeing the dangers which threaten, and making a general plan of the main lines of development which will best provide for the growing needs, and avoid danger to the existing city.

Increasing traffic I imagine to be one of the most threatening dangers. You share this difficulty with all modern cities, but whereas most of them are still obsessed with the importance of providing more and more facilities for an ever-growing volume of movement, you, I hope, will first seek to discover how far it may be practicable to abate the swollen stream which already threatens to flood your central area. You will inquire whether some of it may be directed into new channels, and so carried harmlessly round the threatened district. Even more important, you will study how needless movement to and fro may be reduced by a better location of the people and the places to which they chiefly resort.

For this purpose you will investigate the various causes of traffic congestion and the way in which they may be controlled. The increasing multiplication of motor vehicles of all kinds is one of these causes, of which we in this country have not yet experienced the full force. It is well to realise that already in America there are cities in which the multitude of motor-cars in use afford seats for the whole population, who could thus empty the city and all go riding at once if their roads would accommodate them.

Must we anticipate such a condition in Oxford? I trust not; but long before we approach that state, which means one motor-car for every four or five persons, or even approach the general American average of one car for each ten people, it will become essential to decide whether Oxford must be sacrificed completely to a passing craze for incessant movement. It may well need to be considered, and that soon, whether complete freedom to race about the city in a car is so important a privilege for all the undergraduates that much of the unique character of Oxford streets should be sacrificed to render such form of amusement reasonably safe for the public. Several alternatives are conceivable. The University may well find it desirable within its precincts to restrain this tendency to perpetual movement, in the interests of academic pursuits. (See note at end.)

Even such a drastic measure as the re-erection of the City Gates on the four main highways, to protect the

town against this new invasion, might become justified as an alternative to such vandalism as a widening scheme for The High!

The point to be realised is that already traffic conditions exist in many towns for which an adequate provision here would be inconsistent with the maintenance of this city as we know it; such dangerous conditions must be avoided if possible. The exercise of reasonable restraint in the use of private motor-cars, especially within the city, is one of the ways in which both the citizens and the members of the University may contribute to the preservation of Oxford.

Apart, however, from any such changes as we have been considering in the character of vehicles, or in their number in proportion to population, there are other causes contributing to the congestion of traffic, such as the arrangement of highways, centralisation of trade, commerce or amusements, density and height of building, and the distribution of population, which are more immediately amenable to modification by means of a town planning scheme.

As regards the main highways, their position was largely fixed by the conditions of the site. The shape of the gravel plateau on which the city was built, its relation to the two adjacent rivers, to their fording places and later their bridges, determined that the two main streams of traffic would cross at or near the centre of the town at Carfax, and that the two highways thus formed would be the chief traffic routes. Indeed until recent times they have been the only important routes.

We do not know to whose early architectural instinct the rectangular crossing at Carfax is due. Some have seen in it a Roman relic; but the Romans had no monopoly of the right angle. It seems likely, however, that we owe the extraordinary beauty of the curved High Street to the necessity of accommodating the line of this eastern arm of the cross roads, so that the fording place, and subsequently the bridge which passes the low-lying river valley at its narrowest point, might be approached from a direction normal to the line of crossing. A somewhat similar, though much slighter, change of direction in the southern arm gives the fine view of Christ Church and Tom Tower from Carfax itself.

The very acute angle at which the Woodstock and Banbury roads approached the Northern Gate, where the old St. Michael's Tower still stands, gave to the city its unusually spacious St. Giles, one of the earliest parts outside the wall to be built upon. It is to the protecting moat or ditch outside the North Wall, and the wide space there kept free, that the modern city owes its Broad Street. Unfortunately the continuation of this along Holywell and Long Wall Streets was carried out to a less generous width. Consequently this street is not so adequate as might be

wished to serve as a by-pass road from St. Giles to Magdalene Bridge, though it serves this purpose to some extent. In view of the necessity of limiting the volume of traffic in the central area, the question of diverting as much as possible along by-pass roads is of special importance when planning any new roads here. It is important, for example, that through traffic from the north, as well as that between the northern suburbs of the town and those east of Magdalene Bridge, should be enticed from passing through the centre of the town by the provision of alternative routes. Equally important is it to improve communication between that part of the town which lies north of Broad Street and the railway stations, or the towns and villages which lie beyond them. Such traffic should be discouraged from coming further into the town than Beaumont Street. This is fortunately a fairly wide thoroughfare, and it may be practicable to improve the present route from its western end to the stations. I am glad to see this question of by-pass roads has already received attention and that roads further out are projected, with a view to diverting both through traffic, and that between the outer suburbs of Oxford, which might otherwise have to pass through the centre.

Owing to the position of the rivers, parks, and other features obstructive to road-making, the planning of these highways is not without considerable difficulty; but if Oxford continues to grow their advantage will be increasingly realised, and I am confident that you are justified in making great efforts to preserve the best possible routes for these roads. Do not be too much deterred by the fear of costly bridges; we are apt in modern times to forget or to despise the humble ferry, which is still so effective a substitute on many a wider river. Where on your projected roads the cost of a bridge may not be justified, a ferry may prove a very serviceable substitute for many a year.

Apart, however, from planning or making new roads, there are other means which you can take to check the growth of centralised traffic. In this country we have not yet general town planning powers applicable to the built-up areas of our towns; but you in Oxford have such a unique collection of special buildings, of historical interest and of beauty, that practically the whole of your central area has been deemed to come within the clause passed to meet such exceptional cases in the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1923. While the powers conferred by this clause may not enable you to do all that may ultimately be found to be desirable, they do carry you a long way, and include among other things the regulation of the height and character of buildings. I would ask you to consider carefully how far you may be able to use these powers to prevent an increased density of building in the central areas; to check the increased occupancy of sites for business or other purposes which will

stimulate traffic in the centre; and to limit the heights of buildings on sites already occupied for business purposes. It has not been sufficiently realised how greatly the increase in height of buildings adds to the volume of traffic in the adjacent streets. This is brought home to one very forcibly in studying American conditions, where one may find the population of a small town occupying one lofty building and owning among them over 1,000 private motor-cars. I do not, of course, anticipate such extreme conditions in Oxford; but increase is relative, and if shops or business premises are increased in height from two to four storeys, this will inevitably result in doubling the amount of traffic which they cause. More people will be employed, more goods will be sold, and more customers will frequent these central stores if their volume is increased. May we not ask those who are fortunate enough to have business premises in the central area of Oxford that they shall accept reasonable restrictions in regard to any further increase in the size or height of their buildings? This, I am convinced, is one of the most important of all the precautions which can be taken to avoid increasing congestion in this city.

That, however, is only one side of the question. Obviously, if the population increases, the volume of trade and business must increase also. If it is not practicable to bring the increasing population to the existing shops, the alternative is to take the shops to the people. The development of new shopping centres conveniently placed to serve suburban areas, where a market of sufficient size can spring up, is a perfectly practicable alternative to continued concentration. Such business centres may consist of branches from the existing city stores or of independent shops, and can be encouraged by proper provision and planning of areas for the purpose. By serving all the ordinary daily needs of the residents, they will greatly relieve the pressure on the centre.

Traffic in the central area can be further diminished by localising as far as possible in the different suburbs all the functions of daily life except those few which depend on opportunities or conveniences which are only to be had in the city. You have here more than the usual share of such opportunities; and that the proper enjoyment of them may be open to all, you will naturally wish to provide the necessary traffic facilities. But in order that all the people of your expanding town may have the opportunity to enjoy these special privileges it must be realised that, as a necessary corollary, the use of the central area for those other purposes which can be provided for locally in the suburbs must be discouraged. If the tendency for the expansion of business and trade in the central area is encouraged, or even permitted without some attempt to counteract it, I fear that the opportunities and the amenities which constitute the Oxford which



we all love will ultimately be so overlaid and congested as to lose their value. This is not inevitable; and the most effective way of checking it is to make provision, by careful forethought and planning, for the proper distribution of the increasing population in self-contained suburbs outside the town, and to equip them as completely as possible for all the activities of life, for industry, business, trade, education, and recreation. To the full extent that it may prove possible, all these functions should be localised with the people to whom they minister.

This is a field of development affording ample scope for the town planner and the architect. Make your suburbs so attractive, so well equipped with modern conveniences, so convenient of access, so economical of cost and labour to live in, that the people will be enticed there and the undue pressure which threatens central Oxford will be relieved. We cannot do much by compelling people; a little by regulation to level up the general standard and guide progress on lines fairly well established perhaps; but we can attract people, make the path we want them to follow easy and pleasant, and they will readily tread therein. In too many of our towns, I am sorry to say, we are glad to encourage our architects and builders to remodel and rebuild; here in Oxford our colleagues of former days have builded so well and left us such a store of beauty that we can only beg the citizens to hold their building zeal in check, spare as long as possible these prized relics of the past, and preserve for us fair opportunities to see them.

This is one of the architectural aspects of the town plan which I hope will receive special attention. One of the most characteristic and admired beauties of Oxford has been the vision of the city with its clustered towers, spires, domes, and pinnacles rising in generous profusion above the long low lines of the college buildings and presenting a variety of charming and impressive groupings to the approaching visitor. How many a young scholar, tramping in poverty or, later, speeding on the stage coach to this long-dreamed-of Mecca of his ambitions, has felt his heart beat faster as that vision of the city came first within his view, from one of the many hills which surround us here.

Not less moving has the vision proved to those revisiting the haunts of their youth, perchance at the close of a career, to initiate some loved member of the next generation. Well, gentlemen, it depends on how this town planning scheme is handled, whether that vision of beauty can still be saved. I miss many of those views, which were still open and unspoiled in my youth. Careless building has obscured them, ignoble building has created a foreground in presence of which noble thoughts are liable to give place to curses; and the only emotions which can live are

those of regret and disgust. This site was chosen for the city largely because it was protected by the Isis and the Cherwell, and by the green girdle of low-lying meadows along their banks: meadows which in addition to affording ideal playing fields for the English games, and luscious feeding for the cattle and geese of the Freeman of the city, served for generations as a foreground and frame to the vision of Oxford. It has been reserved, I am ashamed to say, to my generation largely to obliterate that foreground and vulgarise that frame. I urge that what remains of Oxford's green meadow girdle should be strictly reserved. It is the least healthy part of your area to build upon; it is the most difficult and costly for drainage; I suspect that the more it is built on the greater will be the danger of sudden floods. These are sound practical reasons for preserving the low-lying land from further building. But if there were no such reasons, I should still urge with equal emphasis that Oxford is worthy of its setting, that the picture is fine enough to deserve the most appropriate frame.

What is true of the vision of the city, as a whole, is true also of many charming vistas within the city. Much may be done to preserve these and to protect their setting. It is not enough in this respect to have regard only to the buildings of outstanding merit—the colleges, churches and the like. These may be preserved in themselves and yet be largely destroyed by replacing the harmonious background of simple but charming buildings, which were so common here fifty years ago, by blatant or merely incongruous examples of the modern lack of taste.

New views and vistas may also be created. But this is a pursuit to be followed only with great care and caution. Many a Continental city which has cleared away old buildings, thought to obscure the view of something specially fine, has bitterly regretted the clearance, and even in some cases tried to replace that which had been demolished.

There are other dangers, too. Here in Oxford a project has been discussed for opening out an attractive view into a highway, where it would be of great value. Some, however, fear that such an opening would make the mouths water of the restless devotees of traffic; that where their eyes were allowed to stray, they would want their cars to follow! It may be that powers or conditions sufficient to prevent this risk exist, or can be created. Both aspects of such proposals must and will be carefully weighed. The tempting prospect must not be allowed to create a serious risk of damage; nor must a purely imaginary danger stand in the way of needed or attractive improvements. The weighing up of such considerations, the right appreciation of the practical advantages and the æsthetic values, form part of the responsible duties of those in whose hands rests the making of the new plans. Some projects, which

now seem daring, were made by an Italian architect in 1730, in a sketch plan which I believe is in the Bodleian Library. I am not sure that the renaissance enthusiasts of that day had quite enough appreciation of the work of their forerunners to have been safely trusted to replan Oxford, much as there is of beauty with which they have graced her.

We are here to-day as a gathering of architects. It is the peculiar function of the architect to unite the useful with the beautiful, to study scientific construction, to consider the practical requirements, and to satisfy them in beautiful form. If he is a true architect, his thought has been trained to work along both lines and to seek for the synthesis between their demands. His imagination has by long use acquired the faculty of seeing and realising both at the same time; so that if he is moved to do *this* for the sake of its beauty, he will see the inconvenience which it might cause; or if to do *that* for its utility, he will see the danger of marring the beauty he is aiming to create and will modify and modify again until both demands are satisfied. I know of few activities in

which this specially trained imagination is more needed than in town planning and city building. And we shall be agreed that there are few cities in which this need can be stronger than here in Oxford. I am glad to think that this is well understood by the Corporation and their able officials, who have already made so auspicious a beginning of the town planning scheme. There is, of course, equal need for the experience and knowledge of the engineer and surveyor and for the student of the economics of land development. Each has scope and work of importance enough to satisfy their greatest ambition in such an opportunity as this city affords. From what I know of the councillors and of the city engineer I shall be surprised if they do not amply recognise the need, and cordially welcome the help which can be given by the experienced architect in forming a complete scheme. With such co-operation, while preserving the old and cherished heart of the city, it should be possible to lay out and design new quarters for the expanding population, their business and their play, which will be as attractive as convenient.\*

## The Banquet in Christ Church Hall

FRIDAY, 11 JULY 1924, THE PRESIDENT (MR. J. ALFRED GOTCH) PRESIDING.

THE usual loyal toasts having been drunk with enthusiasm, the President next proposed "The University and City of Oxford," and said they were that evening approaching the close of the Conference, one of a series which the Institute had held, but never in a more fascinating centre. At those yearly conferences their aim had been not so much to discuss matters of high importance as to confer among themselves as friends, to draw closer the bonds of amity which united them, and which, he was glad to say, would now, owing to recent events, be drawn closer than ever before. The mention of the University must, he was sure, strike in their breasts chords which vibrated deeply and continuously. As they grew older, men were apt to look back upon their past as a sort of Golden Age in which the world "fleeted the time carelessly." He did not know whether, in the presence of distinguished guests from the University, one ought to suggest that even in the present day time might be fleeted carelessly by those who came to study in the University; but here, if anywhere, in a place like Oxford, with its immemorial traditions, one would imagine that Time would hold his swift foot back, would stay his hand and linger somewhat in using it to whet his scythe for further deeds of destruction. Although the face of Oxford remained on the whole much as it had been for centuries, yet he fancied that among his audience were some who had done a little to alter its appearance; but even in those ancient buildings where their interference was not visible there still seemed, when one visited them after a lapse of years, a sort of change, a

subtle alteration which might arise from the buildings themselves or possibly from the eyes with which they were viewed. They heard on every hand how places, and Oxford among the rest, were becoming always more busy and more thronged. Every age regarded itself as being in a greater state of whirl than those which preceded it; compared with the past its own times were always "these most brisk and giddy-paced times." But however hurried the life of Oxford might become, whatever new problems might face the civic authorities, they, that evening, felt confident that those authorities would regard the great heritage which had come down to them with infinite respect and care. It was his privilege in connection with the toast to convey the thanks of the Royal Institute of British Architects to the University for so kindly receiving them and the College authorities for making them welcome. Especially would he mention Wadham, Queen's, Magdalen and Christ Church. He would also like to thank the Corporation for their kind welcome, and the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Association of Architects, particularly its President, Mr. Edward Warren, and Mr. Rogers, for organising the Conference so ably.

The Rev. L. R. Phelps, M.A., Provost of Oriel College, responding, said to do so was a great responsibility, but it was much more so when he was asked to fill the place, and in a sense represent the Vice-Chancellor. The Provost had created some amusement by alluding to the University as something of an abstraction. When, for instance, a visitor came to call upon him one of his first

\*The College notice boards show that the Vice-Chancellor has already made regulations as to the use of motor-cars by undergraduates.

requests was, "Show me the University." What was he to do? Would they be surprised if he said that he turned at once to architecture to help him with his answer. Architecture came to their rescue, and something of the same was true of those light-hearted undergraduates who had passed three or four years of their lives in Oxford. What did they recollect of the University? He felt that the most careless undergraduate, although he had not perhaps thought upon the subject, although he had not thought of the streamlike winding of that glorious street, High Street, although he had been deaf and blind to all the charm of Oxford, yet carried away a vision of its architectural beauties. Thanks to the gentlemen represented there that night and their noble profession, Oxford left most abiding memories. When they came to consider its buildings there was something of the same mystery, something of the same lack of certainty that there was with regard to the University. Who could tell who was responsible for many of Oxford's finest buildings? Take his own college. They would forgive, he was sure, his patriotic spirit if he said the front quadrangle of Oriel College formed one of the beauties of the place. Who was responsible for it? There was no architect's name connected with it, the college accounts did not show that anyone carried it through, it was thought out, he took it, by the craftsmen who executed it with their own hands; and what was true of that was true of many buildings. He thought those who were comparative strangers had not noticed the extent to which Oxford drew from all four quarters of the globe. They looked for something which would unite the diverse elements which came together from all quarters of the Empire, and they found nothing more calculated to do so than the stone walls which made the City of Oxford, its colleges and its buildings. It was to them and those who had gone before that they owed what was in the present and would be still more in the future one of the strongest bonds which united the members of the different parts of the Empire who came to Oxford. There was a great deal which they had done, and which they would do, in uniting districts far apart, but even more difficult work was to unite the present with the past. They who lived in Oxford realised as few did the difference between the two. They saw every October new life coming into the place, bringing with it new ideals with scant sympathy for those of a preceding generation. They saw a race of young Josephs who did not recognise the venerable Pharaohs upon the throne. They asked themselves what was the work which was to connect the present with the past. Of all other links that could make appeal to the senses there was none which could equal Oxford's architecture. The architect had a great work before him, for he had to unite the aims, the ideals of the present with the aims and ideals of bygone generations. That was his task above all in Oxford. It would not be gracious to ask how far the present generation had succeeded in discharging that task. Oxford had suffered through the amateur architect, but let him add that they owed to architects no small debt in the past. That debt was ever increasing, and when he expressed the gratitude of Oxford for their work, their gratitude was at the expense of favours expected.

The Mayor of Oxford also responded.

Sir Herbert Warren, K.C.V.O., M.A., President of Magdalen College, in proposing the "Royal Institute of British Architects and its Allied Societies," said some of them would perhaps remember what were Dr. Johnson's feelings about dining in Christ Church. He considered it was a sort of crowning incident of his career that he should be invited to dine in that noble hall, which he always considered to be the most splendid chamber in Christendom. He thought they must all feel it that night, and especially those present who were bound to understand the underlying secrets of architectural beauty. There was, he believed, doubt in some quarters as to the founder. He did not know whether his friend the Provost of Oriel, who was almost as regular an attendant at the University sermon as he was, knew, but in regard to the Bidding prayer, some used to give thanks for the benefactor, "such as Cardinal Wolsey." They belonged rather to the higher branch of the Church, and some, on the other hand, said with great boldness, "such as King Henry VIII, the founder of Christ Church," while some, more cautious, said "such as" was the founder of Christ Church. He had no doubt that a Magdalen man, Cardinal Wolsey, was the founder of Christ Church, and he thought the Mayor would agree with him that he was a great man and a great architect. They had heard much of the great architects of the past from the great architects of the present. They had heard of Wren, of Inigo Jones and of others, but he did not know they had heard much about Wolsey, but he claimed that he was an architect. He sprang from almost the same origin as Shakespeare. He thought it singular that that should be so, but he was also the architect of the greatness of the country. He made England, for the first time, a great power, and raised it to a position from which it had never turned in all the centuries which had since elapsed. He had sometimes compared him to that great figure nearer their own time, Prince Bismarck. Wolsey was also the architect of Magdalen Tower; certainly of that splendid hall in which they were met, the kitchens which he hoped they had inspected, and also of Hampton Court. They could claim that he was one of the great architects of England. What constituted an architect, what was the function of the architect? The great architect must be a man whose art must cover the whole gamut of human interest—cathedral, palace, hospital, law court, the university college, the laboratory, the library, and, above all, the home. He had to give it a perfect, or as nearly possible a perfect, form and make it suitable to all the needs of life. It was a great task and a great calling, and so they welcomed their distinguished company and those with whom they felt they had so much understanding, so much appreciation, who inspired them and from whom they could learn so much. It was his privilege to couple the toast with two names, but he would like first of all to couple it with the name of the President, because that name was one endeared to them, to himself particularly, not only by what he had done and what he represented that night, but by his personal connection with one of their best and most valuable pioneers of science, their late Waynflete Professor of Physiology, Frank Gotch. It so happened that the name was known to him in earlier days,

as he had had the privilege of knowing many of the family, and it gave him especial pleasure to welcome such an illustrious member of it to Oxford. The other two names had also been known to him for many years. He had recollections of the advent of a distinguished representative of his own family, his own brother, but let him first deal with Mr. Paul Waterhouse. They welcomed in the second generation a brilliant and most useful representative of that name, with which he became familiar in his younger days. But to come to a more delicate task, he had to couple with the toast the name of his beloved brother. When he found he had to propose his brother's health—he hoped they would not think him irreverent—the first thing that occurred to him was a well-known advertisement which read, "Alas! my poor brother." He could not say that his brother displayed early architectural ability because he could not remember him playing with bricks, but he did display an extraordinary gift for drawing, and that, they would agree, was one of the most brilliant gifts an architect could possess or could develop. He had certainly done much for Oxford; when he recalled the list of colleges to which he had contributed he hoped they would not think it was due to any powerful family influence. He had worked for Magdalen, St. John's, Balliol, Worcester, Oriel, for All Souls, and for that great and famous house, Christ Church, to whom he gave, as Christ Church men would say, most useful advice with regard to their splendid library. He had also done good work for Cambridge, and what he would especially dwell upon was the way in which he had associated himself with Oxford and with neighbouring counties. He did not know what was their feeling about the division of the diocese, but whatever might happen he hoped the three great counties would remain in close association and anything which was done by that Society would be of the greatest benefit.

Mr. Paul Waterhouse, Past President R.I.B.A., who responded, said if he had got to give a message to Oxford let him say as a man in the street, to the people who said Oxford must bring itself up to date, don't take those things to heart. If Oxford went out of business as an old-fashioned place of business let others take on the job; don't let them try to emulate the universities of the North, don't try to emulate Cambridge, don't let them even become as Bletchley!

Mr. E. P. Warren, President of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association, said there was no Society more loyal to the Institute than the one he had the honour to preside over, and he felt that as it represented three counties, each of which contained a conspicuous establishment, it had some distinction. Berks claimed the castle of Windsor, Bucks at Eton one of the most beautiful and renowned public schools, while Oxon claimed the beautiful City of Oxford and its great University. The speaker paid a tribute to the presidency of Mr. Gotch, and, speaking of the work of the Institute, said wherever the British flag flew the Royal Institute of British Architects was in greater or minor degree represented by architects. So far as that Conference was concerned, it was impossible for them to leave Oxford without acknowledging in the fullest and warmest manner the debt which they owed the University and City for the courtesies and hospitalities they had

been shown. The Conference had been characterised by that sense of good comradeship, by that attrition or rubbing of shoulders, which was such a good thing in every assembly of men closely bound to the same objects, and especially when gathered under the almost overwhelming influence of the concentrated and beautiful architecture of the most beautiful city in England. That Conference had not been carried out without a good deal of work, and might he be permitted to ask for consideration of the efforts made by the Executive Committee and by the Chairman of the Oxford Society of Architects (Mr. Rogers), and the hon. secretary (Mr. Rayson), both of whom had been responsible for the arrangements locally, and, further, by that prop and mainstay of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. Ian MacAlister, the secretary. Oxford was always inspiring to architects, but he was sure every architect who had attended the Conference hoped that the University would, in the erection of new buildings, consider its dignity and the expression of that dignity as it had done in the past, and that it would most carefully watch the preservation of its beauty, and would not allow the mere consideration of rapidity of travel and the like to injure its amenities, and that the City would not consider any form of advertisement, for Oxford, like good wine, needed no bush.

#### LIST OF GUESTS AT THE BANQUET.

Mr. T. Bowman, M.A. (Warden of Merton College), the Bursar of Magdalen College, the Bursar of Queen's College, the Bursar of Wadham College, Professor Albert C. Clark, M.A., Mr. G. N. Clark, Dr. A. E. Cowley, M.A. (Bodley's Librarian), Professor G. Dreyer, M.A., Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel (President, The Architectural Association), Miss Lynda Grier (Principal, Lady Margaret Hall), Mr. D. G. Hogarth, C.M.G., M.A., Mr. G. J. Howling (Editor, "The Architects' Journal"), Mr. K. K. M. Leys, M.A. (University College), Mrs. Leys, Professor A. D. Lindsay (Master of Balliol), Mr. F. J. Lys, M.A. (Provost of Worcester College), Mr. Ian MacAlister (Secretary R.I.B.A.), Mrs. MacAlister, the Mayor of Oxford (Councillor W. H. Perkins), Mr. J. A. R. Munro, M.A. (Rector of Lincoln College), Professor J. L. Myres, M.A., Mr. Edmund H. New (Hon. A.R.I.B.A.), Sir Charles Oman, M.A., M.P., Mr. E. J. Partridge (President, Society of Architects), Mr. F. W. Pember, M.A., D.C.L. (Warden of All Souls), Miss E. Penrose, O.B.E., M.A. (Principal of Somerville College), Rev. L. R. Phelps, M.A. (Provost of Oriel College), Mr. W. T. Plume (Hon. A.R.I.B.A.) Sir Michael Sadler, K.C.S.I., M.A. (Master of University College), Mr. C. H. Sampson, M.A. (Principal of Brasenose College), Major A. K. Slessor (Steward of Christ Church), Rev. W. A. Spooner, D.D. (Warden of New College), Mr. J. F. Stenning, C.B., M.A. (Senior Tutor, Wadham College), Rev. J. M. Thompson, M.A. (Home Bursar, Magdalen College), the Town Clerk of Oxford (Mr. Arthur Holt), Capt. B. S. Townroe (Editor, "The Building News"), the Treasurer, Oriel College, Sir Herbert Warren, K.C.V.O., M.A., Hon. D.C.L. (President of Magdalen College), Mr. H. W. Wills (Editor, "The Architect"), Mr. E. M. Wrong, M.A., and representatives of the Press.

The following members of the Conference were also present at the banquet:—Mr. P. H. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ansell, Mr. C. E. Bateman, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Bates, Mr. F. J. Barnish, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Baynes, Mr. Walter H. Brierley, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert T. Buckland and Miss Buckland, Professor Lionel B. Budden, Mr. A. E. Bullock, Miss Irene Burrows, Rt. Hon. Viscount Bury, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Bryce, Mr. F. G. Baker, Lt.-Col. H. P. Cart de Lafontaine, Mr. W. H. D. Caple, Mr. H. F. D. Caple, Mr. A. Lorne Campbell,



Mr. Walter Cook, Mr. Herbert A. Cox, Mrs. G. N. Clark, Major Hubert C. Corlette, Mr. and Mrs. T. Talfourd Cumming, Mr. Philip H. Cundall, Mr. T. Lawrence Dale, Mrs. M. J. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Glen Dobie, Mr. R. F. Dodd, Mr. F. E. Pearce Edwards, Mr. Arthur G. Edwards, Mr. G. H. Farley, Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Fogg, Mr. Allen Foxley, Mr. G. T. Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hastwell Grayson, Mr. H. B. S. Gibbs, Mr. J. Alfred Gotch (President R.I.B.A.), Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hale, Mr. J. Wilson Hays, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hamp, Mr. R. G. Hammond, Mr. F. Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Harrison, Mr. F. Milton Harvey, Mr. A. W. Hennings, Mr. and Mrs. E. Percy Hinde, Mr. Francis Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Hope, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hutt, Mr. and Mrs. Ivor P. Jones, Mr. J. Herbert Jones, Mr. W. T. Jones, Mr. Herbert Jeans, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert H. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Kaye, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Keen, Mr. John Keppie, Mr. Henry F. Kerr and Miss Dorothy Kerr, Mr. William King, Mr. E. Bertram Kirby,

Mr. P. H. Lawson, Mr. G. C. Lawrence, Mr. F. J. Lenton, Mr. James Lochhead, Sir Robert and Lady Lorimer, Mr. C. Lorimer, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. McLaren, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Milburn and Miss Milburn, Mr. J. Inch Morrison, Mr. W. G. Newton, Mr. G. H. Oatley, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander N. Paterson, Mr. T. Rayson, Mr. and Mrs. T. Taliesin Rees, Mr. H. Whiteman Rising, Mr. Harold S. Rogers, Colonel and Mrs. Alfred Spain, Mr. John Swarbrick, Mr. W. S. Skinner, Mr. and Mrs. J. Llewellyn Smith, Mr. Geo. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Soutar, Sir John Sulman, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Taylor, Mr. H. F. Traylen, Mr. Harry Teather, Mr. J. Amory Teather, Sir A. Brumwell Thomas and Miss Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Percy B. Tubbs, Miss C. Wallum, Mr. C. F. Ward, Mr. Edmund Ware, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Warren, Mr. A. P. Warren, Mr. P. J. Waldram, Mr. Paul Waterhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice E. Webb, Mr. J. R. Wigfull, Mr. Norman Wigzell, Mr. C. B. Willcocks, Mr. T. Butler Wilson, Dr. Percy S. Worthington.

### The Oxford Conference : A Foot-Note

The Oxford Conference is now a matter of history. It was a success beyond all expectations and almost beyond our utmost hopes. One of the youngest of our Allied Societies has achieved a success which will be very hard to challenge within the lifetime of any of us. The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association undertook a big task in inviting the architects of the Empire to Conference. But it possessed the assets of enthusiasm and energy, it commanded the services of a band of devoted workers, and the labours of many months were rewarded by a result that will not be forgotten by the present generation in the profession.

The whole affair was blessed with perfect weather. Only those who have experienced a fine July in Oxford can fully appreciate what that means. From the start everything went well. Our lodging was diversified. We helped to fill half a dozen of the little hotels. Some were accommodated in Undergraduates' lodgings—empty for the "Long Vac."—in "the High," "the Broad," "Long Wall" and other seductive addresses. Perhaps the most fortunate were those who enjoyed the hospitality of the Colleges which so generously placed their rooms at our disposal. Magdalen, Merton, Oriel, Hertford—each had its contingent of grateful guests. Since July 12th our members have been telling me how much they owed to the Bursars, the Fellows in residence, the College Porters and the "Scouts," who made them welcome.

To the authorities of University College, and to Sir Michael Sadler, the Master, in particular, we owe most grateful thanks for giving us the charming rooms at 90, High Street, which served as our Headquarters. Instead of the simple office that we asked for they gave us five quite beautiful rooms which were delightfully fitted and decorated for the occasion by the Master's

kindness. There Mr. Baker supplied the needs of everyone, and Mr. Paintin's encyclopædic knowledge of Oxford was at the disposal of those who wanted information for their private visits and excursions.

To the Vice-Chancellor, the genial Warden of Wadham, we owe more than we can ever hope to repay. He struck the keynote of the Conference with his delightful Reception in the Hall and Gardens of Wadham on our opening evening, when we had the pleasure of meeting so many of the distinguished figures of the University. He received us officially in the Sheldonian Theatre, the use of which we owe also to him, and gave us a most eloquent and interesting address of welcome. His example was followed most graciously by the Colleges. Magdalen and Queen's opened their Halls for our luncheons, and we are told that at Queen's the silver tongue of the Vice-President in command caused even the College Cellar to open.

At the Town Hall we were received by the Deputy Mayor—Mr. Councillor Tom Basson—who gave us a warm civic welcome and produced for our inspection the beautiful old silver plate of the Corporation.

The evening of that day at Magdalen will never pass from the memory of those who were so fortunate as to be present. Received in the beautiful Hall by the President and Council of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association, with a pleasant string band in the Minstrels' Gallery, we passed on into the Quadrangle, charmingly lighted by Chinese lanterns, and the College Gardens, Addison's Walk, the Cherwell, the Deer Park, the Cloisters—everything was open to us and everything was at its best. Cardiff supplied its ever-welcome touch of colour, South Wales its serried band of loyal supporters, Scotland, South Africa, Australia had their representatives. The evening was all too short.

Friday morning was brighter than ever when the two bands set out on their journeys—one by steamer down the river, the other by motor through the unequalled towns and villages of the Upper Thames Valley. We hear that they enjoyed themselves. They were certainly in good spirits when they returned for the Banquet in the Hall of Christ Church, which was the culmination or the Conference. The generous hospitality of the Dean of Christ Church and the authorities of the College, backed by the energetic helpfulness of the Bursar and the Steward, had arranged for us an unforgettable evening. The Hall was wonderful, the dinner was worthy of Christ Church, the speeches were worthy of the occasion. Those who wandered round Tom Quad in the moonlight at eleven o'clock, reluctant to leave, felt that the gods had been good to them. It was a matchless experience.

Many stayed on over the Saturday and Sunday, taking advantage of the additional visits arranged for them, seeing what they had so far missed of the Colleges and Gardens, and exploring the Cherwell and the Thames.

We must end on a note of thanks. First, our hosts. For that is what the University and College authorities really turned out to be. To the Vice-Chancellor above all, to Sir Herbert Warren, the President of Magdalen, to the Dean of Christ Church, to the Wardens of All Souls' and Merton, to the President of Hertford and the Provosts of Queen's and Oriel, to the Master of University College, to the Bursars, Treasurers and Stewards who did so much for us, to the Governor of the Castle and to Bodley's Librarian,

to the Mayor and Corporation of Oxford, to the innumerable College servants who worked for us so kindly that we almost fancied ourselves Undergraduates, to all these we owe a debt that we cannot put into words.

And lastly to our own people, who made all this interest and pleasure possible, we must pay our tribute. As Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Edward Warren worked untiringly for months to ensure the complete success of all the arrangements. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Rayson, the Oxford members of the Committee, had perhaps the heaviest burden of all as they alone were on the spot and upon them naturally fell an infinite amount of careful organisation.

The other members of the Executive Committee all played their part enthusiastically and the Council and members of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association showed themselves worthy rivals of the other Allied Societies which have registered such a remarkable series of successes since these Conferences began. We are indebted to the Guides, Stewards and Party Leaders who saw to it that the machinery worked smoothly, to Mr. Rogers for his beautiful designs for the Conference Badge and the Programme, to Mr. Edmund New for permission to use his wonderful drawing of Christ Church for our Menu, to the Hon. Mrs. Pleydell-Bouverie, who entertained our Motor Party so beautifully at Coleshill, to the Rev. E. B. Lock, the Vicar of Faringdon, and the Rev. A. F. S. Sheffield, who helped us at Faringdon, to the Rev. Canon Jones and to the Rev. J. A. Hultgren, who did the same service at Fairford and Burford.

I. M.

#### LIST OF MEMBERS ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.

Among those present attending the Conference were the following:—

Adams, Mr. P. H. [F.]; Adkin, Mr. A. G. [Licentiate]; Adkin, Miss A. E.; Adshead, Professor S. D., M.A. [F.]; Agutter, Mr. T. C. [F.]; Agutter, Miss F. M.; Allen, Miss Olga; Allcorn, Mr. W. J.; Anscombe, Mr. A. E. [A.]; Anscombe, Mrs.; Ansell, Mr. W. H., M.C. [F.]; Ansell, Mrs.; Baker, Mr. F. G.; Bateman, Mr. C. E. [F.]; Battley, Mr. H. S. [A.]; Bates, Mr. E. A.; Bates, Mrs.; Barnish, Mr. F. J.; Barnes, Major Harry [F.] (Vice-President R.I.B.A.); Baynes, Mr. W. A. [Licentiate]; Baynes, Mrs.; Beckwith, Mr. H. L. [Licentiate]; Brown, Mr. W. Talbot [F.]; Broadhead, Mr. C. A. [A.]; Broadhead, Mrs.; Brierley, Mr. W. H., F.S.A. [F.]; Buck, Mr. W. G. [Licentiate]; Buck, Mrs.; Buckle, Mr. G. J.; Buckland, Mr. H. T. (Vice-President R.I.B.A.); Buckland, Mrs.; Buckland, Miss; Budden, Professor Lionel B. [A.], M.A.; Bullock, Mr. A. E. [A.]; Burrows Miss Irene; Bury, Viscount; Bryce, Mr. A. D. [A.]; Bryce, Mrs.; Cart de Lafontaine, Lt.-Col. H. P. L., O.B.E. [A.]; Cave, Mr. R. S.; Caple, Mr. W. H. D. [F.]; Campbell, Mr. A. Lorne [F.]; Close, Mr. R. M.; Close, Mrs.; Cook, Mr. Walter; Cook, Miss E. M.; Cook, Miss; Collins, Mr. C. R. T.; Corfiato, Mr. H.; Corfiato, Mrs.; Cox, Mr. Herbert A.; Clark, Mrs.

G. N.; Corlette, Major Hubert C., O.B.E., F.S.A. [F.]; Cumming, Mr. T. Talfourd [F.] (Hon. Treasurer, Berks, Bucks and Oxon A.A.); Cumming, Mrs.; Dale, Mr. T. Lawrence [F.]; Dale, Mrs.; Dance, Mr. T. H. W.; Davis, Mr. H. Stratton, M.C. (Hon. Secretary of Wessex Society of Architects); Davis, Mrs.; Davidson, Mr. T. Gerard; Davidson, Mrs.; Dawson, Mr. Matthew [F.]; Dawson, Mrs.; Dawber, Mr. E. Guy, F.S.A. [F.] (Vice-President R.I.B.A.); Dawber, Mrs.; Dicken, Miss; Ditchfield, Rev. P. H., M.A., F.S.A. (Hon. A.R.I.B.A.); Dobie, Mr. W. Glen [A.]; Dobie, Mrs.; Dodd, Mr. R. F. [A.]; Eccles, Mr. T. E. [F.]; Edwards, Mr. F. E. Pearce [F.]; Edwards, Mr. Arthur G.; Emerson, Miss; Farley, Mr. G. H.; Fletcher, Sir Banister [F.]; Fletcher, Lady; Fletcher, Mr. H. M., M.A. [F.]; Fogg, Mr. Harold J.; Fogg, Mrs.; Forester, Mr. E.; Forester, Mrs.; Foxley, Mr. Allen; Gardner, Mr. G. T.; Grant, Mr. John P. [F.]; Grant, Mrs.; Grayson, Mr. G. Hastwell [F.]; Grayson, Mrs.; Gibbs, Mr. H. B. S. [A.] (Hon. Secretary, Sheffield Society of Architects); Gotch, Mr. J. Alfred, F.S.A. (President R.I.B.A.); Hale, Mr. E.; Hale, Mr. W. J. [F.]; Hale, Mrs.; Hays, Mr. J. Wilson [A.]; Hamp, Mr. Stanley [F.]; Hamp, Mrs.; Hammond, Mr. R. G. [F.]; Hammond, Mr. F.; Harris, Mr. Sidney F. [F.] (President, Northamptonshire Association of Architects);

Harris, Mrs.; Harrison, Mr. N. W. [F.]; Harrison, Mrs.; Harvey, Mr. F. Milton [A.]; Harvey, Mr. W. A. [F.]; Hennings, Mr. A. W. [F.]; Hinde, Mr. E. Percy [F.]; Hinde, Mrs.; Hitchins, Mr. W. W.; Hirst, Mr. H. C. M. [A.]; Hirst, Mrs.; Hooper, Mr. Francis [F.]; Hope, Mr. Arthur J. [F.] (President, Manchester Society of Architects); Hope, Mrs.; Horne, Mr. David E. A. [Licentiate]; Howling, Mr. G. J. (Editor of the *Architects' Journal*); Howard, Mr. F. E.; Hutt, Mr. Harry [F.] (Hon. Secretary, Berks, Bucks and Oxon A.A.); Hutt, Mrs.; Jones, Mr. Ivor P. [A.] (Hon. Secretary, South Wales Institute of Architects); Jones, Mrs.; Jones, Mr. J. Herbert (Hon. Secretary, Western Area Branch, South Wales Institute of Architects); Jones, Mr. Francis [F.]; Jones, Mrs.; Jones, Mr. W. T., F.S.A. [F.] (President, the Northern Architectural Association); Jeans, Mr. Herbert (Editor of the *British Builder*); Jenkins, Mr. Gilbert H. [F.]; Jenkins, Mrs.; Jerman, Captain R. H., M.C.; Jerman, Mr. James (R.F.); Kaye, Mr. Stewart [A.] (Hon. Secretary, Edinburgh Architectural Association); Kaye, Mrs.; Knapp-Fisher, Mr. A. B. [F.]; Keen, Mrs.; Keppie Mr. John, A.R.S.A. [F.] (President of the Incorporation of Architects in Scotland); Kerr, Mr. R. S. [A.]; Kerr, Mr. Henry F. [A.]; Kerr, Miss Dorothy; King, Mr. William [A.]; King, Mrs. E.; Kirby, Mr. E. Bertram, O.B.E. [F.] (President, Liverpool Architectural Society); Lawson, Mr. P. H. [A.]; Lawrence, Mr. G. C., R.W.A. [F.] (President, Wessex Society of Architects); Lenton, Mr. F. J. [F.]; Lochhead, Mr. James [F.]; Lloyd, Mr. T. Alwyn [F.] (Chairman of Central Area Branch, South Wales Institute of Architects); Lloyd, Mrs.; Lorimer, Sir Robert, A.R.A., R.S.A. [F.]; Lorimer, Lady; Lorimer, Mr. C.; MacNicoll, Miss; Mader, Mr. E.; Marten, Mr. W. H. H. [Licentiate]; Martin, Mr. E. A. L. [A.]; MacAlister, Mr. Ian, M.A. (Secretary R.I.B.A.); MacAlister, Mrs.; McLaren, Mr. P. R. [Licentiate]; McLaren, Mrs.; Milburn, Mr. T. R. [F.]; Milburn, Mrs.; Milburn, Miss; Milnes, Mr. G. P. (President, Gloucestershire Architectural Association); Moberly, Mr. A. H., M.A. [F.]; Morgan, Mr. E. P. [Licentiate]; Morgan, Mrs.; Morrison, Mr. J. Inch [Licentiate] (President, Edinburgh Architectural Association); New, Mr. Edmund H. (Hon. A.R.I.B.A.); Newton, Mr. W. G., M.A., M.C. [F.]; Oatley, Mr. G. H. [F.]; Openshaw, Mr. F. E. [A.]; Openshaw, Mrs.; Partridge, Mr. E. J. (President, Society of Architects); Paterson, Mr. Alexander N., M.A., A.R.S.A. [F.]; Paterson, Mrs.; Paterson, Mr. H. L. [F.] (President, Sheffield Society of Architects); Paterson, Mr. E. A.; Paterson, Mr. J. B.; Plume, Mr. W. T. [Hon. A.R.I.B.A.]; Rayson, Mr. T. [A.] (Hon. Secretary, Oxford Society of Architects); Read, Mr. Herbert [F.]; Reavell, Lt.-Col. G.,

O.B.E. [F.]; Reavell, Mrs.; Rees, Mr. T. Taliesin, J.P. [F.]; Rees, Mrs.; Rising, Mr. H. Whiteman [F.] (Chairman, Berks Society of Architects); Richardson, Professor A. E. [F.]; Richardson, Mrs.; Rix, Mr. R. A. [A.]; Rix, Mrs.; Rix, Mr. H. T.; Roberts, Mr. A. B. Llewelyn [A.]; Robertson, Mr. Manning [A.]; Robertson, Mrs.; Robinson, Mr. J. B.; Robinson, Miss; Rogers, Mr. H. S., M.A., F.S.A. (Chairman, Oxford Society of Architects); Rogers, Mrs.; Royce, Mr. Bernard; Royce, Mrs.; Sanville, Mr. Gerald [A.]; Santo, Mr. V. G. [A.]; Saunders, Mr. J. T. [F.]; Saunders, Mrs.; Slater, Mr. J. Alan, M.A. [A.]; Spain, Col. Alfred [F.]; Spain, Mrs.; Swarbrick, Mr. John [F.] (Hon. Secretary, Manchester Society of Architects); Stephens, Mrs. Reynolds; Steiger, Mr. A.; Sciortino, Professor A.; Skinner, Mr. W. S. [F.] (President, Bristol Society of Architects); Smith, Mr. J. Arthur [F.] (Chairman of Council, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Association of Architects); Smith, Mrs.; Smith, Mr. J. Llewellyn, M.B.E. [Licentiate] (Hon. Secretary, Northern Branch of South Wales Institute of Architects); Smith, Mrs.; Smith, Mr. Harry; Simpson, Mr. Geo. [Licentiate]; Soutar, Mr. C. G., F.S.A. (Scot.) [F.]; Soutar, Mrs.; Sulman, Sir John [F.]; Sulman, Lady; Sulman, Miss D.; Stucke, Mr. W. H. [F.] (representing the Association of Transvaal Architects); Tayler, Mr. Arnold S. [A.]; Taylor, Mrs. F. M. (a representative of the Institute of Architects of New South Wales); Taylor, Mr. G. A.; Traylen, Mr. H. F. [F.]; Teather, Mr. Harry [F.]; Teather, Mrs.; Teather, Miss; Teather, Mr. R. H.; Teather, Mr. J. Amory [Licentiate]; Toothill, Mr. J. C. P. [A.]; Townroe, Captain B. S. (Editor of the *Building News*); Thorp, Mr. O. M.; Thorpe, Mr. J. E. [Licentiate]; Thomas, Sir A. Brumwell [F.]; Thomas, Miss; Thomas, Mr. Percy, O.B.E. [F.] (President, South Wales Institute of Architects); Thomas, Mrs.; Tubbs, Mr. Percy B. [F.]; Tubbs, Mrs.; Unwin, Dr. Raymond [F.]; Unwin, Mrs.; Wallum, Miss C.; Ward, Mr. C. F. [F.] (Chairman Eastern Branch of South Wales Institute of Architects); Ware, Mr. Edmund; Warren, Mr. E. P., F.S.A. [F.] (President, the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association); Warren, Mrs.; Warren, Mr. A. P.; Waldram, Mr. P. J. [Licentiate]; Waldram, Mrs.; Waterhouse, Mr. Paul, F.S.A. [F.] (Past President, R.I.B.A.); Webb, Mr. Maurice E., D.S.O., M.C. [F.]; Webb, Mrs.; Wickenden, Mr. A. F. [A.]; Wickenden, Mrs.; Wigzell, Mr. Norman [A.]; Wigfull, Mr. J. R. [F.]; Wike, Mr. C. F.; Willcocks, Mr. C. B. [F.] (Hon. Secretary, Berks Society of Architects); Wills, Mr. H. W. [F.] (Editor of the *Architect*); Wilson, Mr. T. Butler [F.]; Wilson, Mr. Horace; Wilson, Miss; Worthington, Mr. Percy S. [F.], M.A., D.Litt.; Yates, Mr. C. W. [A.]; Yates, Mrs.; Yates, Mr. T. C. [A.]; Yeates, Mr. A. B. [F.].

## Correspondence

### OUR BUILDING TROUBLES.

3 Queen Street, E.C.2, 13 July 1924.

The Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—The *Sunday Observer* has given expression to the opinion of Mr. Alfred C. Bossom, the well-known Anglo-American architect. No one is likely to dispute the justice of what is well said by Mr. Bossom; but the chief and weakest spot is not mentioned at all.

The curse of England to-day is the want of confidence in the leaders of industry, and the building trade at the moment is doubly cursed by more than a normal share of the evils besetting all our great industries—*want of confidence and lack of goodwill*.

The first and most important lesson we have to learn is that capital and administrative ability is of little value to-day unless it can secure contented workers.

There is not one man who knows anything about the building trade who pretends to believe that the workers are contented, or at all likely to be under present conditions.

Having been promised by the leaders of all the political parties, that "never again should this country return to the bad old conditions of 1914," but that the winners of the war should return to "Homes fit for Heroes," it is not altogether surprising that not only seeing, but *feeling*, the conditions of 1924, our heroes are not quite contented, and are a little slow to believe in promises.

I was present at the Conference held in May 1919 at the R.I.B.A., and left that Conference in a more hopeful frame of mind than events have justified. The manifesto of the Industrial League and Council, published in August 1922, revived sinking hope, which had been shipwrecked by the breakdown of the Building Trade Parliament.

During the last two years there has not been much to encourage the hopeful; not even a Conference drawn together by goodwill, or a manifesto expressing obvious truths, such as "What the soldier has destroyed only the worker can build up again."

Why did the Builders' Parliament break down? Why has the Industrial League and Council failed to bring about peace in our industrial world?

I have stated many times the opinion that in any trade dispute that side must win which can carry public opinion with it.

It seems to me that the time has come when the Government should appoint an independent committee of enquiry to inform the public with regard to the facts in connection with our industrial disputes, and leave public opinion to force the hands of those who lack public spirit.

If in a sheltered industry like the building trade capital and labour cannot agree, what hope is there of all-round goodwill? Without doubt there are faults on both sides. Who is without fault? But surely it is obvious that the interests of employer and employed are identical in the sheltered trades at least.

There is a limit of cost beyond which no one will go, and to be unreasonable prevents work; but within reasonable limits it is not very material to the employer how much he pays in wages, the important consideration is that he should get full value in return for high wages.

Competition will prevent undue profits, except in very big contracts, which only a few firms could possibly carry out, and these contracts might be safeguarded against spoliation.

I do not think employers would mind going back to war-time wages; if every man employed gave of his best, and would "boycott" the man that would not. On the other hand, I honestly believe that the majority of workers would rather give a fair day's work than play at "ca' canny."

It cannot be denied that for some ten years before the war wages had increased and output decreased, and, because trade on the whole was good, the heavens did not fall; men, therefore, became more and more obsessed by the false economic theory that every year brought a certain amount of work, and by restriction of output all could obtain a share, so long as trades were not allowed to become over-populated.

Cutting wages down to semi-starvation rates will not cure false doctrine, but I am inclined to think the opposite policy of straining to keep them at the highest level would succeed if fairly tried.

The Census of Production Report for 1907, published in 1913, was full of warnings, and another report should be published at the earliest possible moment and its contents broadcasted. For those with eyes to see and ears to hear it will, I am sure, teach some essential facts.

If men want high wages they must earn them; and capital must be content with a fair return.

If this country is to hold its own, goodwill must be established amongst all classes.

If the building trade desires peace it will go back to the spirit of 1919, and it may be that by a further and better consideration of the Foster Commission Interim Report it could find salvation.

It is quite certain that reconstruction of our industrial system must come sooner or later if we are to survive, and surely no industry is better placed to lead the way than the building trade.—Faithfully yours,

JOHN E. YERBURY,  
Licentiate R.I.B.A.

A noteworthy and generous gift has recently been made to University College, Cardiff, in the form of nearly 300 volumes from the library of architectural books collected by the late Robert Williams, F.R.I.B.A., who, up to the time of his death in Cairo on 16 October 1918, practised as an architect in Alexandria, Cairo and London. The collection of books, comprising the bequest made by his son and daughter (Mr. Inigo R. Williams and Mrs. M. Travers Symons), is of considerable value. It includes a number of scarce folios of the eighteenth century, monographs on various periods of art, and a catholic selection of works on all aspects of architectural design, history and construction. It is understood that facilities will be afforded by the University College authorities for the students of the School of Architecture in the neighbouring Technical College to have access to so useful a library.

M. S. B.



# ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE OF NEW YORK : TRIBUTE TO SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

On 1 August, in a chamber in the south-west tower of St. Paul's Cathedral which contains Sir Christopher Wren's model of the cathedral, a tablet, presented by the Architectural League of New York, was unveiled by Lord Crawford. The tablet bears the inscription :

"In recognition of the inspiration and enduring influence upon American architecture of the work of Sir Christopher Wren this tablet is inscribed by the Architectural League of New York."

The service of dedication was conducted by the Dean of St. Paul's, who was assisted by Canon Alexander and Canon Duckworth.

Lord Crawford formally unveiled the tablet. He said it was a testimony to the strength and vitality of Sir Christopher Wren's influence, and though they well recalled the famous admonition against a memorial to his achievement, and the plea that his work rather than his personality should carry his recollection onwards, they might direct their minds to his memory on this spot, where "thro' the long drawn aisle and fretted vault the pealing anthem swells the note of praise." They stood that day in the heart of the throbbing life of that great city, and in imagination they carried their minds back to that same city in the days of the genius of Wren. He knew the city decimated by plague, shattered by death, devastated by fire, and from the ashes of its despair he raised this giant monument to the hope of immortality. Many generations had passed through the life of the Cathedral, and each had paid its tribute of praise, yet their words were but rippling waves passing over the unfathomable depths of his greatness. Indeed, so great a master was he that one might almost say of him, as was said of the Greatest of all and His followers, "He went before and they were amazed, and as they followed they were afraid." In that dark hour of their history the genius of Wren took wing, hovering like some great spirit over its ashes and desolation, surveying its ruins, and conceiving its massive reconstruction. Creation followed creation, each excelling its neighbour in strength and grandeur, in grace and vitality, and so the city of death became the envy of the world of architecture.

Those present included :—Mr. Alfred C. Bossom (chairman of the Foreign Activities Committee of the Architectural League of New York), Mr. J. Alfred Gotch (president of the Royal Institute of British Architects), Mr. W. Scott (New York), Sir Brumwell Thomas, Sir George Frampton, R.A., Sir Frank Short, Mr. Mervyn Macartney, Mr. Herbert Baker, Sir William Berry, Dame Clara Butt, Lady Maitland, and Lady Frederick Lewis.

## THE WREN BICENTENARY VOLUME.

In a recent number of the *New York Times Book Review* there is a review of five columns of the Wren Bicentenary Memorial volume in which Herbert J. Gorman, the reviewer, says : "Eighteen men, numbering among them most of the more important figures in the Royal Institute of British Architects, have combined together to fashion the bicentenary memorial volume into an important as well as an extremely sumptuous book. It is both wise and admirable that Wren should be so honoured, for his place now is a permanent one in

the long gallery of English geniuses. . . . No notice of this bicentenary volume would be complete without due mention of it as a piece of book-making. It is in large format, which gives opportunity for excellent colour engravings as well as a number of important documents in Wren's own hand. The book, as a whole, is a fine and justified tribute to a great intelligence who was more than an architect."

## BRITISH PAVILION AT THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF MODERN DECORATIVE AND INDUSTRIAL ART IN PARIS, 1925.

MESSRS. EASTON AND ROBERTSON'S SUCCESS.

The Pavilion is to be erected in connection with the International Exhibition to be held in Paris next spring. A feature of the Exhibition is the exclusion of any work which is reproduction of the antique or "pastiche."

The design of the Pavilion was selected in limited competition between six firms of architects. Mr. Goodhart-Rendel was the assessor, and the award was subject to the approval of the Fine Arts Commission.

The site for the British Pavilion is a particularly fine one, on the north side of the Seine adjoining the Pont Alexandre III and the Cours La Reine.

The authors of the selected design are Mr. Howard Robertson, S.A.D.G., F.S.Arc., and Mr. J. Murray Easton, A.R.I.B.A., of Easton and Robertson, 36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Mr. Robertson is principal of the Architectural Association School of Architecture, and received his architectural training in the Architectural Association School and later in the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, obtaining his office experience in London, France, and the United States. Mr. Easton was articled in Scotland to George Bennett Mitchell, Past President of the Aberdeen Chapter of the Scottish Incorporation of Architects, and subsequently attended at London University College School of Architecture. He was afterwards in the office of Sir Edwin Lutyens and Messrs. Wimperis and Simpson. The partners have been in practice together since the war, and have carried out work in North Wales, Northamptonshire, and Wiltshire, as well as in London.

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

Last April Mr. Paul Waterhouse was appointed Honorary Consulting Architect to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. This appointment does not imply either that the Governors of the Hospital are generally in favour of endeavouring to obtain architectural advice free, or that Mr. Waterhouse considers that hospital architecture should go unpaid.

The explanation is a simple one. Mr. Waterhouse was invited earlier in the year to advise as a paid consultant. He considered, however, that the nature of certain advice which he had previously given in the capacity of President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, together with certain considerations in relation to brother architects, would render a paid appointment liable to misunderstanding and possibly to embarrassment. He therefore accepted the suggestion of the Hospital Board that he should join them as a Governor, and under the name of Honorary Consulting Architect take part in the Board's consideration of the work in which professional architectural advisers may in due course be engaged.

## Obituary

FREDERICK HOLYOAKE MOORE [A.], J.P.

Mr. F. H. Moore, who died at Warwick on Trinity Sunday, 1924, at the age of 82, was elected an Associate as far back as March, 1866, and must have been the senior practising subscribing Associate of the Institute when he retired in December, 1920. He served his articles with Charles James Richardson (1806-1871), better known as an architectural illustrator, who was himself the favourite pupil of Sir John Soane (1753-1837), so that his professional parentage takes us back many generations.

Mr. Moore succeeded his father as secretary to the Warwickshire Agricultural Society, a post which he held in addition to his practice for 33 years, retiring in 1919.

Though a lover of the best classic, his practice was principally connected with country domestic work, schools, etc. He had a great knowledge of the ancient buildings of Warwick, his native town, and used to protest against the unnecessary destruction of good work of the past. Occasionally he wrote short articles on the old houses of Warwick, and in 1921 presented his drawing of old Warwick College to the Institute; this was founded in 1435 and wantonly pulled down in 1883.

C. M. C. ARMSTRONG [F.].

J. A. HARRISSON [A.].

John Anstice Harrison was born in 1880 and was educated at Caldy Grange Grammar School, West Kirby. He later studied architecture at the Liverpool University and was articled to his father, the late Mr. T. Harnett Harrison [F.], from 1898 to 1903, with whom he was afterwards in partnership. From 1912 to the outbreak of war he was engaged on work in Canada. During hostilities he served with the Canadian Forces both in this country and on the Western Front, and on demobilization he decided to live at Rhosneigr, Anglesey, where he practised his profession. He died on May 25th, after an illness of only a few days.

EDWIN SEWARD [F.].

The death has recently taken place, at Weymouth, of Mr. Edwin Seward, who was well known in South Wales. Born in 1853 at Yeovil, Somerset, where he was articled as an architect and surveyor, Mr. Seward went, in his sixteenth year, to Cardiff, and there remained until his retirement in 1915.

When he went to Cardiff he acted as assistant to the late Mr. George E. Robinson. For some years he was a student and visitor at the original Cardiff Science and Art Schools, and secured various Queen's prizes, medals, etc., for architectural and decorative designs from the central department at South Kensington in national and other competitions. In 1875 he joined Mr. W. P. James (the then surveyor to the county of Monmouth) and Mr. George Thomas, in practice as architects and surveyors.

During his 40 years' professional life he was the architect and designer of a number of public buildings in South Wales and Monmouthshire. These included the Wye Bridge, Monmouth, the Cardiff original municipal buildings, the Cardiff workhouse, and the workhouses at

Ely and Pontypridd, the Central Library and Museum Buildings at Cardiff, the Celtic Corridor at Newport Road, Cardiff, and the Harbour Trust Offices and Council Chamber at Swansea. He was also the architect of various residences, banks, and business premises at Cardiff, Swansea, and elsewhere in South Wales. Of these latter probably the most important is that of the Cardiff Coal and Shipping Exchange.

Mr. Seward allied himself whole-heartedly with the educational and kindred activities of Cardiff, particularly in the encouragement of art and its accessory subjects.

### NOTES FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING, 21 JULY 1924.

#### INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC LIGHTING ENGINEERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

Mr. John Keppie [F.] and Mr. James Lochhead [F.] have been appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. at the First Annual Meeting and Conference of the Institute of Public Lighting Engineers and Superintendents.

#### REINSTATEMENT.

The following have been reinstated:—As Fellow, Mr. C. H. Heathcote; as Associate, Mr. Frank Granger; as Licentiate, Mr. Percy G. Overall.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

The following awards have been made at University College: FACULTY OF ARTS (BARTLETT SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE):

Lever Prizes in Architecture.—First Prize (equal): Leonora F. M. Payne, C. H. Short.

Architects' Journal Essay Prize.—J. N. Summerson.

Herbert Batsford Prize.—P. A. Wailes.

Donaldson Silver Medal.—J. R. Alabaster.

Ronald Jones Prizes.—Medieval Architecture: J. N. Summerson; Renaissance Architecture: H. Kendall.

Ronald Jones Travelling Studentship.—C. H. Short.

Certificates in Architecture, under the new regulations (three-year course) have been obtained by:—Penelope G. Carmichael, J. F. L. De Silva, Sylvia C. Gray, R. G. Grice, H. T. B. Griggs, H. A. Johnson, G. F. Kelly, J. T. Lloyd, D. M. Micklethwaite, Z. Panitch, Leonora F. M. Payne, Elizabeth C. C. Philip, S. D. Wheeler.

In the Department of Town-planning:—

Lever Prizes in Town-planning.—First prize: H. W. J. Heck; second prize: L. M. Austin.

Certificates in Town-planning were obtained by: L. M. Austin, H. W. J. Heck, J. P. Blake.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

##### RESULT OF JUNE EXAMINATION.

B.A. (Honours Architecture).—Final: Kathleen O. Brayshaw; Part I: W. H. McNichol, Ellen Alexander.

Intermediate R.I.B.A. Exemption.—Kathleen O. Brayshaw, Frank Whiteley.

Final R.I.B.A. Exemption.—Elsie Rogers, W. A. Norbury, P. Fairhurst, R. J. Willis, W. Owen.

The following Travelling Scholarships have been awarded: Manchester Institute of Builders Travelling Scholarships.—£70: Elsie Rogers; £60: R. J. Willis; £50: Kathleen O. Brayshaw.

R.I.B.A. Travelling Scholarship.—£50: G. H. Gatley.

The Heywood Prize.—£10: W. H. McNichol.

## Notices

### R.I.B.A. KALENDAR, 1924-25.

The Kalendar for the coming Session is now in course of preparation, and changes of address, etc., should be notified to the Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, London, W.1, as soon as possible.

### ELECTION OF MEMBERS, 1 DECEMBER 1924.

Associates who are eligible and desirous of transferring to the Fellowship class are reminded that if they wish to take advantage of the election to take place on 1 December 1924, they should send the necessary nomination forms to the Secretary not later than 4 October.

### SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS FOR HIRE.

A Member has most generously placed at the disposal of the R.I.B.A. a very good dumpy level, tripod and staff, and also a good theodolite and tripod.

These instruments being a somewhat expensive part of the equipment of an architect's office, it is felt that many Members may be glad of an opportunity to get them on loan. Members or Licentiates who desire the loan of these instruments should apply to the Secretary R.I.B.A., stating for how long they will be required. A nominal fee to cover the cost of adjustment from time to time will be charged.

Architects are warned that subscriptions are being solicited in London by an unauthorised person for an American architectural publication, and they are advised to make careful enquiries before giving any orders in this way.

### BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

#### R.I.B.A. FINAL EXAMINATION.

The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects have decided that in the case of Fourth and Fifth Year Students of Schools of Architecture exempted from the R.I.B.A. Final Examination six months spent on building works and/or in a builder's office (approved by the School) and otherwise gaining knowledge of the practical side of building shall be recognised as equivalent to six out of the twelve months now required to be spent in an architect's office.

#### R.I.B.A. EXAMINATIONS, MAY AND JUNE 1924.

The questions set at the Intermediate and Final (or Special) Examinations held in December 1923 have been published and are on sale at the Royal Institute, price 1s. 6d. (exclusive of postage).

### THE R.I.B.A. AND THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.

At a meeting held on 8 August by the Society of Architects the resolution *re* amalgamation with R.I.B.A. was confirmed.

### THE R.I.B.A. HENRY JARVIS SCHOLARSHIP AT THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME, 1924.

On the recommendation of the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome, the R.I.B.A. Henry Jarvis Studentship for 1924 has been awarded to Mr. Marshall Arnott Sisson, Student R.I.B.A.

Mr. Sisson is 27 years of age and was born in Gloucester. He served for four years during the war, and in 1919 obtained professional experience in an architect's office. In 1920 he entered the Bartlett School of Architecture, University of London, and in 1923 obtained the B.A. Degree (Honours Architecture, First Class). He was also awarded the second Lever Prize in Design.

The Faculty regret that they are unable to award on this occasion the Rome scholarship offered by the Commissioners of 1851.

## Competitions

### RECONSTRUCTION OF THE KONINGINNE BRIDGE, ROTTERDAM.

The Municipality of Rotterdam have announced their intention to hold an international prize Competition for plans for the reconstruction of Koninginne Bridge which spans the narrower of the two branches of the Maas River encircling Noordereiland in the city of Rotterdam.

The first prize offered amounts to the sum of 10,000 guilders.

The plans may be drawn up in Dutch, French, English or German, and must be submitted anonymously to the "Directeur der Gemeentewerken te Rotterdam, Haringvliet 4, Rotterdam," before midday on 15th December 1924, marked "Prijsvraag Koninginnebrug."

Members or Licentiates who desire further particulars should apply to the Comptroller-General, Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen Street, S.W.1, for a loan of the official programme setting out the conditions. These documents are printed in the Dutch language and will be sent on loan in order of application to those desirous of seeing them.

This Competition is not a call for tenders, but is instituted for the purpose of obtaining a plan which could be utilised in the construction of a bridge. Bridge-building firms are apparently not precluded from sending in plans. It is anticipated that the tender eventually submitted by the person or firm whose design is placed first will receive special consideration, although it is expressly stated that the Municipality recognises no obligation in this respect.

While Members and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A. may enter for this Competition if they wish, they are notified that in view of the special nature of the Competition the usual steps with regard to approval or disapproval of the conditions will not in this instance be taken by the Competitions Committee of the R.I.B.A.

### BEXHILL TOWN HALL.

Members and Licentiates of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above Competition because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

## Competitions (contd.)

### THE IMPERIAL LONDON HOTELS, LTD.

COMPETITION FOR DESIGNS FOR ROW OF SHOPS WITH HOTEL OVER.

Members and Licentiatees of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above competition because the conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

### MASONIC MEMORIAL COMPETITION.

Apply to The Grand Secretary, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.2. Last day for applying for conditions, 23 August 1924. Deposit, £1 1s. Closing date for receiving designs, 1 May 1925. Assessors: Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A. [F.] (appointed by the President); Mr. Walter Cave, [F.], Mr. A. Burnett Brown, F.S.I.

### BETHUNE WAR MEMORIAL.

Apply to Secretary, Imperial War Graves Commission, 82 Baker Street, W.1. Closing date: 31 March, 1925. Assessor: Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A.

## Members' Column

### THE LEEDS SCHOOL OF ART. DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of Instructor in Studio Design.

Candidates should have had an Academic Training, and a sound knowledge of Architectural Construction, as the duties of the successful candidate will be to supervise the constructional side of Studio Design Work, under the general direction of the Head of the Department.

The Instructor will be required to take up his duties at the commencement of next session.

Forms of application, which may be obtained from the undersigned, together with a statement of salary required, should be returned not later than Saturday, 16 August 1924.

JAMES GRAHAM,

Director of Education, Education Department, Calverley Street, Leeds.

### APPOINTMENTS VACANT.

ASSISTANTS (two) required by the Government of Ceylon for service in the Architectural Office of the Public Works Department for a period of three years with possible permanency. Salary £500 rising by annual increments of £30 to £560 a year, and then (if appointment is made permanent) to £960 per annum with efficiency bar at £720, payable locally in rupees at the Government rate of exchange of 15 rupees to the £1. Free passages.

Candidates, preferably unmarried, age 26-30, must have passed examination for Associate Membership of the R.I.B.A. or Membership of Society of Architects, and have special experience in the actual design and construction of reinforced concrete buildings and of steel framed buildings. Preferably with war service.

Apply at once by letter, stating age, qualification, and experience to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1, quoting M/12945.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN required for Hong-Kong. Age 25, single, and preferably an A.R.I.B.A. Knowledge of steel construction essential; three years' agreement; salary £500-550.—Apply Box 5824, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

### APPOINTMENTS VACANT.

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT FOR WORKS DEPARTMENT OF THE CHINESE CUSTOMS SERVICE AT SHANGHAI.

CANDIDATES should be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, about 28 years of age, unmarried, and with a good knowledge of reinforced concrete design and construction and with some responsible work to their credit.

The terms offered are: Salary: Hk. Tls 350 a month, increasing by Hk. Tls. 50 a month for every two years' service in China to a maximum of Hk. Tls. 560. (The Hk. Tl. may be considered to be worth normally 3s., but its present value is about 3s. 7d.) House allowance, Hk. Tls. 50 a month; personal allowance, Hk. Tls. 3 a day, when away from headquarters, and free medical attendance. First-class passage paid and £50 travelling expenses.—Reply Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

### ROOMS TO LET.

ONE room first floor, 74 Eccleston Square, for Architect. Attendance to callers could be arranged.—Apply by letter only to Harold Bailey, Architect, 74 Eccleston Square, Westminster, S.W.1.

VISITORS to Wembley.—Rooms to let by architect's widow in W.C. district. Clean and comfortable. Bed and breakfast. Electric Light, Bathroom. Well recommended by architects and others.—Reply Box 1425, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

### APPOINTMENTS WANTED.

LICENTIATE, good all-round experience, desires engagement with view to partnership. Working and detail drawings, specifications, quantities, and surveys. Southern Counties preferred. Small capital available. Highest references.—Box 1924, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

JUNIOR ASSISTANT, Public School, three years articles, three years College, passed R.I.B.A. Intermediate Examination, experience in first-class London office, requires position with good London firm in order to acquire further experience to help in preparation for Final Examination.—Box 1234, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

ARCHITECT, Civil Engineer, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.A., M.Struct.I. Age 40. Married. University and Engineering College education, served articles. Practised on own account 15 years. Active, energetic. Experienced all branches. Desires any post, responsibility, home or abroad.—Reply Box 1428, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

ASSOCIATE (33) desires responsible position where sound knowledge and 14 years' experience of domestic work would be of service. Advertiser has built houses by direct labour, and is at present in charge of technical department of land development syndicate. A small amount of capital would be invested if required.—Reply Box 1326, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

OPENING wanted in an architect's office for a lad 17. Son of A.R.I.B.A. A knowledge of tracing, and 10 months' general office experience.—Box 7328, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

### FURNISHED FLAT TO LET.

MEMBER desires to let, for three months or longer, well-furnished first-floor flat, about 7 minutes' walk from Hampstead Tube Station, and directly adjoining the Heath. Sitting room with beautiful view of the Heath; bedroom with continuous hot water; kitchen, electric light, gas, bath and every convenience.—Write Box 7416, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

### COADJUTOR WANTED.

FELLOW R.I.B.A. (Public School and University) wishes to combine in working arrangement with another, either in own or other's office.—Apply Box 7281, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

### COMMENCEMENT OF PRACTICE.

MR. T. E. JONES [A.] has opened a practice at Arvonja Buildings, Bangor, and will be pleased to receive manufacturers' catalogues, etc., at that address.—Apply Box 7586, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1.

MR. LISHMAN, who has recently retired from the post of Consulting Architect to the Government of the United Provinces, India, which he has held since 1912, has now resumed practice in London at 8 Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1.



